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Driving high

Police are catching more stoned people getting behind the wheel

Rosemary Westwood

As the Counterattack Road Check season winds down, Saanich police were surprised by one memorable night that saw the number of drivers caught driving while high on marijuana exceed those caught for drinking and driving.

On the evening of Dec. 18, five high drivers were handed 24-hour driving suspensions. One driver rolled into the road check with a joint in hand.

"Amongst pot users there is that belief that of all the drugs, smoking marijuana is the least of all evils. The truth of the matter is any drug impairs people's judgment and decision-making ability, which driving requires," said Saanich police Sgt. John Price. "I think we've seen an increase in the number of pot users getting 24-hour suspensions and, occasionally, impaired driving convictions."

A 2003 Ontario survey also found that drug-impaired driving is on the rise, with 20 per cent of high school drivers who were surveyed admitting to getting behind the wheel within one hour of using marijuana at least once the previous year.

Scott Macdonald, assistant director at the Centre for Addictions Research B.C. and professor at UVic's School of Health Information Science, found a high proportion of people who drove after using marijuana said they tended to slow down and drive more carefully. He said marijuana, unlike alcohol or other drugs such as cocaine, tends to make users aware of their impairment and causes them to compensate.

"The question is whether they're able to do that or not," he said.

Several countries have undertaken studies to determine what effect marijuana has on the likelihood of a person getting into a car crash.

"The well-controlled [studies] have pretty much shown that marijuana is a risk factor for crashes," he said. "People are somewhere between two and five times more likely to be involved in a crash if they're high on marijuana."

But while the rules around being impaired by drugs or alcohol while driving are the same, Price and Macdonald agreed it's harder for police to detect a particular drug than it is to detect alcohol, which can be identified by smell and through a breathalyzer test.

See Gov't looks to crack down, p. 2

EMILY AGOPSOWICZ PHOTO

Although it is less dangerous than alcohol, marijuana can increase a driver's risk of getting in a car crash by between two and five times.

'Newfie' party draws criticism

Rosemary Westwood

A fundraiser for the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS) at UVic sparked debate about the term "Newfie," causing anger among some students.

The UPS held Newfie Night on Jan. 9 at Hugo's Brew House to raise funds for a trip to Newfoundland and Labrador. Members of the society are attending a national student political science conference at Memorial University later this month. With their $15 ticket, partiers received cover, a pint of beer, and fish and chips. According to a UPS e-mail, the party featured Newfoundland music with people "encouraged to dress up as their favourite Newfie stereotype."

"I do have to question it, because you won't have a Mexican night or an African night because people would call it racist," said first-year UVic student and Newfoundland native Colin Forbes.

Second-year student and Newfoundlander James Furneaux said he uses "Newfie" among other Newfoundlanders, but the term has different connotations when used by others.

"A lot of people use it as a derogatory term," said Furneaux. "It's a fundraiser, so I don't want to be an asshole, but I don't appreciate hearing that there is a fundraiser about your favourite Newfie stereotype. To a degree it's almost making fun of our culture."

He said he expected people to dress up as fishermen.

"I have spoken with my other family members who live in town here with me and they were shocked that a learning centre such as UVic would allow this to happen," Furneaux wrote in a message to the UPS.

Furneaux's letter also referenced a 2006 Edmonton Sun article about a police officer who was disciplined for citing "Newfie" as a reason to apprehend an individual under Alberta's Mental Health Act.

"If a police officer was disciplined for using this statement, how can the University of Victoria condone it?" he wrote.

But event organizers insist the theme was not intended to be offensive.

"We're using the word as a term of endearment," said UPS international student representative Alexia Kerr, who said she expected some people to show up in rain gear "because it rains a lot in Newfoundland." At a UPS bake sale held Monday, Kerr said Newfoundlanders who saw the Newfie Night posters "thought it was great."

"Every single person we asked didn't have a problem," she said.

Kerr didn't say whether the society had considered the sensitivity of the term when planning the event, but added "the point is to actually go there."

UPS president Amber Dujay said the dress-up portion of the night was "just sort of a joke," and echoed Kerr's insistence that it wasn't meant to be offensive.

But UVic's director of human rights said people should tread carefully when it comes to employing terms that were traditionally used in a negative context.

"Historically, Newfie jokes are quite derogatory to Newfoundlanders," said Cindy Player, who noted she hasn't received any complaints of discrimination toward Newfoundland and Labrador students at UVic to date.

"Often people use those terms without thinking about the impact on people and maybe they haven't though about the fact it could be quite harmful to people from Newfoundland."

But whether the term Newfie is offensive or not depends on who you ask.

See Some not offended, p. 2

TOP STORIES

Online community is changing travel
FEATURE, P. 10

Transit troubles
NEWS, P. 3 & 4

NEW: Green issues
ENVIRONMENT, P. 7

CD reviews
LIVING, P. 13

Male synchro swimmer breaks gender barrier
SPORTS, P. 17

COLUMNS

This week in Martlet history
NEWS, P. 4

Ask Miss Martlet
LIVING, P. 14

PLUS

Diversions P. 18

Comics P. 19

Events P. 20

Continued from p. 1

Gov't looks to crack down on stoned drivers

"We don't have anything like the breathalyzer to determine if there's active THC in the system," said Macdonald. "You can do blood analyses, and that's rather invasive."

Currently, the law prevents police from demanding a person suspected of driving while high go to a police station for further investigation and testing. As a result, said Price, there are fewer impaired driving convictions for drugs compared to alcohol.

> "We don't have anything like the breathalyzer to determine if there's active THC."
>
> *– Scott Macdonald, assistant director at the Centre for Addictions Research B.C.*

But the federal government wants to change that. Introduced in 2004, Bill C-16 is waiting for a second reading in the House of Commons. It would amend the Criminal Code in an effort to increase police ability to convict drug-impaired drivers.

The bill would let police demand that suspected impaired drivers submit to Standardized Field Sobriety Tests, which include physical tests such as the one-leg stand. Bill C-16 would also allow police to demand that drivers submit to an evaluation by a drug recognition expert at a police station, as well as provide fluid samples. For suspicion of marijuana use, this would mean a blood test because the drug remains in the system months after use, making a urine test ineffective.

Bill C-16 would also increase penalties for convictions, with fines for a first offence rising from $600 to $1,000. The minimum mandatory sentence for a second offence would increase from 14 to 30 days, and from 90 to 120 days for a third offence.

Gayle Quin, vice-president of the Cannabis Buyer's Club of Canada, said she finds smoking marijuana makes her a more careful driver. But she warned that eating marijuana can make a person drowsy, and therefore dangerous behind the wheel of a car.

Macdonald said eating cannabis can be more dangerous because it's harder to gauge the dosag and the effects are delayed.

"It is a risk factor for crashes — I think the literature is becoming more convinced of that," he said. "But at the same time, it's not nearly in the same league as alcohol."

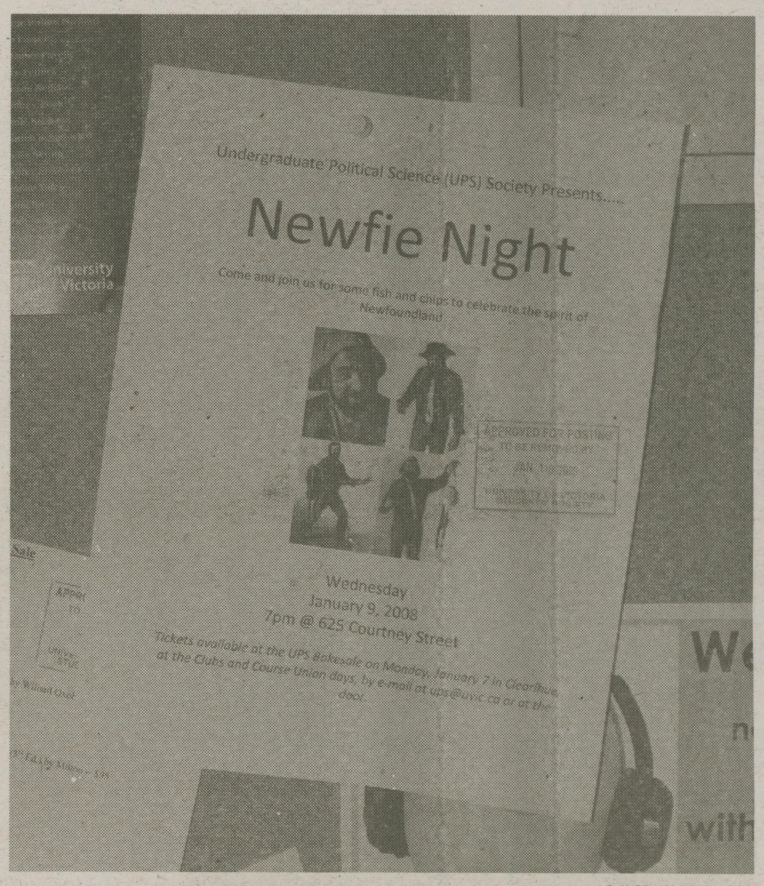
But police aren't considering marijuana's relative dangers.

"We're looking for everybody who might have made a poor decision when they go behind the wheel of the car," said Price, who added that there's a simple solution to staying safe and away from police scrutiny: abstinence from drugs and alcohol.

"Surely to God one in your group is willing to abstain one night so everyone can get home safely."

Continued from p. 1

Some not offended by 'Newfie'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DAVID KARP PHOTO

Flyers for the UPS fundraiser were posted around campus this week, featuring illustrations of a fisherman.

Ronald Rompkey, professor of English at Memorial University in St. John's and former UVic English professor, said given the option, he wouldn't attend the UPS fundraiser, calling the theme "presumptuous."

"In the past ['Newfie' has] been used to put people down," he said. "It's very often used in a condescending way."

He added the word isn't intrinsically bad, but requires sensitivity.

UVic alumnus Christopher Linstead and students Keith Beecroft and Aileen Patterson all said the intent behind the word determines whether it's derogatory.

"Most Newfoundlanders I know, including myself, have a good sense of humour and don't take themselves too seriously," Linstead wrote in an e-mail. "It is only mean-spirited comments that are dismissive of contributions Newfoundlanders make to the Federation that generate animosity within the province.

"I respond positively to being addressed as a 'Newfie,'" Linstead wrote.

"The term simply signifies the uniqueness of those who live or are from Newfoundland and Labrador," wrote Beecroft in an e-mail.

He said the term only becomes derogatory when promoting a negative concept of Newfoundland residents.

"Some would deem Newfoundlanders as simple-minded individuals who ask for handouts (hence Newfoundland once being called the welfare state)," he wrote. "Newfie is a nickname like any other, and it is only offensive when given in an offensive manner."

Canadian Political Science Students Association president and Newfoundlander Shannon Tobin said he thought the UPS made a mistake in its choice of words.

"It's probably because they don't know the right words to use, and it seems inflammatory to a degree. But all across the country there are Newfie Nights held," Tobin said, adding he's attended several, including one in Ontario. "It's a way of celebrating the culture of Newfoundland and Labrador."

UVic student Forbes said the problem isn't with the word "Newfie," but with the general ignorance of Canadians about Newfoundland and Labrador.

"We're in your country — the least you could do is know something about us," he said.

Forbes has a tip to enlighten UPS delegates who may be a little ignorant about Newfoundland and Labrador.

"I would encourage anybody going to try Pineapple Crush, because it's amazing and I wish I had some right now. It's only available in Newfoundland, and it's delicious," he said.

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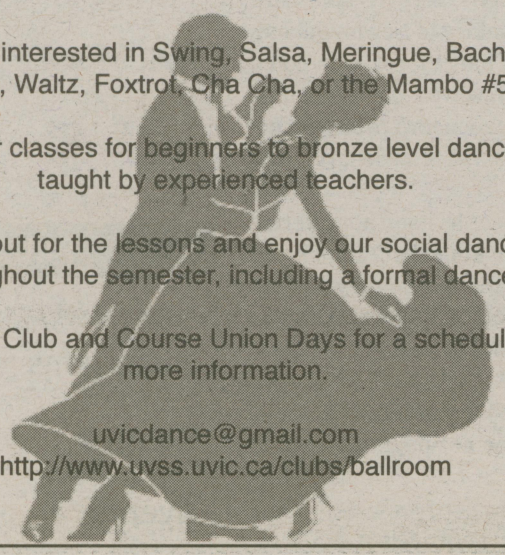

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- it can't include anything trademarked by UVic
- no profanity, even if it's funny
- black and white

Note: you must be graduating (undergrad) in April to qualify, but we don't care if it took you longer than Conrad Black's jail sentence to complete.

UVSS wants gas tax increase to pay for transit

Steve Carey

The UVic Students' Society (UVSS) has more than 3,000 signatures for a petition to raise the gas tax to increase bus service in Victoria and the surrounding areas.

The UVSS campaign would see the profits of a two cent gas tax increase go toward sustainable transportation improvements, such as improved late night service, express service and better bus routes to the Western Communities. The proposed increase would raise more than $6-million per year. The current gas tax in Victoria is 2.5 cents, while in Vancouver it is 14 cents.

Partnered with the Canadian Federation of Students, the UVic Graduate Students' Society, the Camosun Student Society and Royal Roads, the UVSS is treating the proposed gas tax increase petition as a community campaign, according to UVSS director of finance Jamie Strachan. The campaign is endorsed by NDP MLA Rob Fleming and NDP MP Denise Savoie.

The UVSS will present the provincial government with the petition at the end of the semester. Any change to the gas tax has to be authorized first by the province, and then by the municipalities. Strachan said that the municipalities are on side.

"They recognize that in the next 20 to 30 years there's going to be a much larger need for transit," said Strachan. "If we can get the provincial government to give the OK, then the municipalities will be quick to initiate the change."

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Christine Comrie (left) and Tracy Ho (right) show Ryan Levis a petition for increasing the gas tax. The tax increase would fund transit.

Strachan said the next step is waiting for the provincial budget. The dollars allocated to transit determine how big a priority transit is.

"The B.C. Liberals have said time and again that they want to see carbon reductions by 2020, and this is a natural place to start, so I'm optimistic they'll recognize that this fits into their plans and is something that a lot of people want to happen," said Strachan.

"I think [raising the gas tax] is good for sustainability, and hopefully it'll get people out of their cars," said Caitlin Meggs, UVSS director of academics. "And if that money goes toward funding better transit that people can use, it's great."

Meggs said that students with cars might not drive if they have the option to take the bus.

"If you live in Esquimalt, it's really hard to take the bus to school, and that's why we're hoping to get better transit," said Meggs. "First you need to have infrastructure for people to use before you can force them to get them out of their cars."

Pat McKenna, a third-year honours history student, worked at bothan Esso gas station and a Petro Canada.

"As a driver, no, I'd be against it, but I'm a public transit person, so I support it," said McKenna. "The anger people have for a gas price increase is equal to that of a rise in cigarette prices."

Darcy Lindberg, a third-year sociology student, doesn't drive and is in favour of a gas tax increase.

"People need to accept the fact they'll be paying a lot more for oil in the future, so adding an extra tax to oil now in order to fund alternatives is a very logical route to take," he said. "At the very least, it might encourage people to seek other methods of transportation."

George Robinson, a UVSS chairperson candidate last year, said he agreed with Saanich Mayor Frank Leonard, who said in a Saanich News article that in order to meet greenhouse gas reduction commitments a light rail system is needed, not just improvement to a few routes. Robinson also said that the issue should be provincial, and that transit should use "long term secured funding that's not dependent on taxes."

The petition can be signed at the bulletin board by the Resource Centre in the Student Union Building.

CORRECTIONS

The Martlet erroneously reported Dec. 6 that Tracey Coulter owns the Kiss & Tell sex shop. Coulter was an employee of Kiss & Tell but was never shop owner.

We erroneously reported Dec. 6 that UVic students uploaded 26 photos to Facebook for a contest called Molson Canadian Nation. In fact, UVic uploaded 42 photos. The contest was actually called Cold Shots Campus Challenge, associated with the Molson Canadian Nation Facebook group.

We erroneously reported Dec. 6 that the UVSS board of directors extended director of services Erica Virtue's sick leave. In fact, Virtue's sick leave expired in November.

We erroneously reported Nov. 29 that Advanced Ecology and Ecology of Prokaryotes are the only two ecology courses at UVic. In fact, they are the only fourth-year ecology courses; UVic also offers the second-year course Principles of Ecology and the third-year course Marine Ecology.

We erroneously reported Oct. 18 that women infected with one of the HPV strains Gardasil is supposed to prevent can still be vaccinated to prevent other HPV strains. In fact, 2006 trials by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration found Gardasil was not highly effective on women who already had an active strain of HPV associated with the vaccine.

UVic wary of bar shuttle drop-off on campus

Nathan Lowther

A proposal to give UVic students a safe and cheap way home from downtown bars has run into a roadblock.

The Victoria Bar and Cabaret Association is meeting with the Victoria city council on Jan. 16 to present a plan for a privately run shuttle to give revelers a ride home. The shuttle would cost riders $5 and operate from midnight to 3 a.m., long after B.C. Transit buses have been tucked into their garage for the night. But UVic's executive director of student and ancillary services, David Clode, is wary of the shuttles unloading on UVic property.

"[When people drink] heavily and congregate then, no guarantee, but misfortune can occur," said Clode. And there is no guarantee the shuttle riders are students or live on campus, he added.

Instead, Clode wants shuttles to unload at the entrances to the university, leaving students to walk to their dorms. This would give non-residents "another choice for which direction to go," Clode said.

But this suggestion is unpalatable for UVic Students' Society (UVSS) chairperson Tracy Ho. She is concerned with the safety of drunk students walking the dark woods that surround Ring Road.

"It's unacceptable to expect students to walk from downtown or through a forest [at night]." Ho said. "It's not safe."

The UVSS, as well as the student councils of Camosun and Royal Roads, are part of a campaign to increase the municipal gas-tax to fund increased transit services, including later buses.

"The shuttle is only a short-term Band-Aid solution," said Ho. "It would only serve a portion of the students. It is not the best and most sustainable solution."

Clode agrees. He points out that the shuttle concept is simply an unproven experiment and is only being considered due to lack of other viable options.

"The student society is on the right campaign trying to extend transit service hours," said Clode. "That's more reasonable and I hope they are successful."

But UVic students like the idea of a shuttle. With the last call for buses being before 12:30 a.m., students are left with the dilemma of leaving the pub early or finding another way home. This can mean driving drunk, walking or taking a cab. A cab from downtown to UVic costs around $25, which can add a lot to the cost of a night of drinking.

"A shuttle would be awesome," said Spencer Miller, a first-year computer science student who says he has cabbed home about five times this school year. "And the walk wouldn't matter."

Some female students were also excited about the idea of a shuttle, but were concerned about the walk.

"It would depend on what entrance, but having a shuttle would be a big help," said Dana Olson, a first-year psychology major. But she would want to make sure the drop-off is well lit and not deserted.

"Yes, I would take it," said third-year student Christina Burns when asked about the shuttle. "And as long as I wasn't alone, the walk would be OK."

Clode said he feels his objections to having the shuttle unload on campus are casting the university in an "unnecessarily negative light."

"We support tavern owners and police but have no obligation to anyone to have [potentially drunk and disorderly] people dropped at our front door," Clode said.

But the discussion has just begun, and no negotiations have taken place.

"They contacted us, and we suggested they drop off at the entrances," said Clode. "That's the extent of the discussion."

Ho said using the already existing facilities is the best bet, and that the bus loop would make the ideal drop-off point, due to it being well-lit and the close proximity to Campus Security and its SafeWalk program. But Ho said she doesn't believe the risk of non-residents flooding the campus should keep the shuttles from providing students with a way back from the bars.

"We have Campus Security," she said. "A shuttle will not make res the official after-party."

This week in Martlet history

Stories from the Martlet archives

Jan. 15, 2004 — Two members of the UVic community showed up on federal Liberal party membership lists despite not supporting the party.

A former president of the UVic Young Liberals signed up a UVic poli-sci student for a convention. "I personally had shown little interest," the student said. "I especially did not want to become a card-carrying member of the party. The next thing I knew, I was a member."

A UVic alumnus went to New York with some Paul Martin supporters and was invited to a Liberal function at the Empress, but didn't attend. "A month later I was a member," he said. "I never paid and I never signed anything."

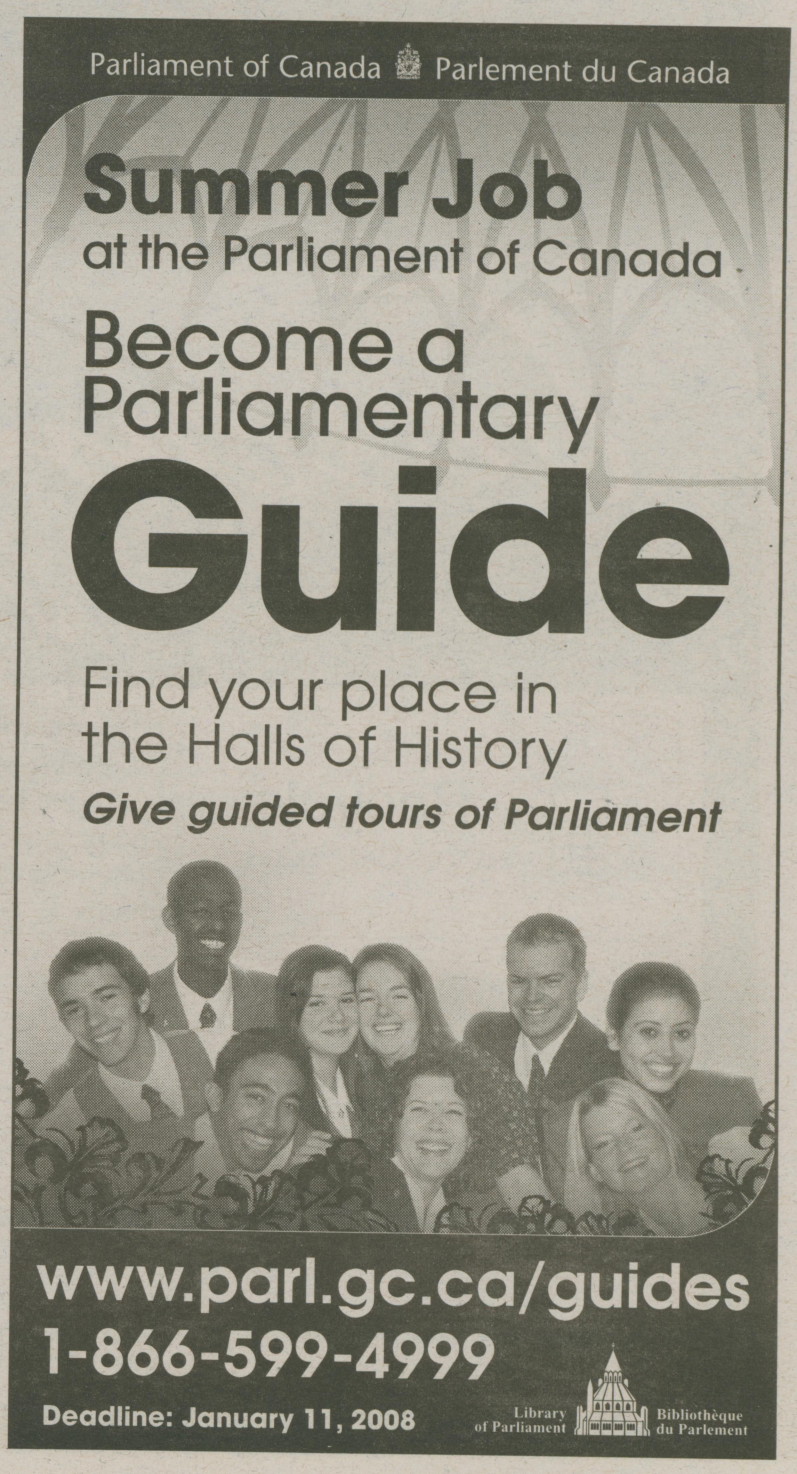
Liberal party memberships in B.C. surged from 4,000 to 37,000 in the 18 months leading up to the November 2003 federal Liberal leadership convention where Paul Martin was elected leader.

Jan. 12, 1989 — UVic told the student union that it would no longer pay for its general manager.

Although the university was willing to continue paying the general manager's $30,000 salary, UVic's student union wanted the control and independence that came with paying the general manager's salary. However, some student union executives argued there were better ways to spend the $30,000.

Jan. 14, 1965 — A contest to design a UVic flag was launched.

The Martlet and the Athletic Council jointly offered a $25 prize for best design. The student union proctor got the idea for the contest from the number of students coming into his office wondering why UVic didn't have any pennants for sale.



Reform needed for B.C. lottery system: report

David Karp

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

A report on the B.C. lottery system by Deloitte, an auditing firm, resulted in 44 recomendations. The NDP wants them implemented and is calling for Solicitor General John Les to resign.

(CUP) — The NDP is calling for the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General John Les to implement changes to the B.C. lottery system or resign.

Concerns about possible fraud in B.C.'s lottery system were raised after an audit uncovered 21 retailer wins of at least $10,000, some of them repeat winners. An investigation into the B.C. lottery system by Deloitte, an auditing firm, resulted in 44 recommendations, which were made public in November.

The report suggests that the government review "the current structure, accountabilities and responsibilities for gaming" to reduce any perceived or actual conflict of interest.

Currently, the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch reports to Les, who also oversees the lottery corporation. While no actual conflict of interest was expressed, the report did note that the perception of one was not difficult with the same man in charge of both administering and enforcing the lotteries.

"There is a potential for an actual or perceived conflict of interest as ... the distribution of the proceeds of gaming rest with the same organizational units as those responsible for enforcement and audit," the report read.

Harry Lali, the NDP critic for gaming, has since called for Les's resignation because he's "not up to the job."

"This report is a damning indictment of Liberal policy and the Liberal way of doing things," Lali said. "You can't have the same minister who is responsible for gaming also be responsible for the enforcement of the gaming regulations. There's an inherent conflict of interest that is there, and the report says so."

But Les said the report doesn't explicitly say a conflict of interest exists.

"It didn't say that it actually puts me in a conflict of interest. What it did say is that that perception could be there," Les said. "But it did suggest that we review that, and we will."

That's not good enough for Lali.

"If there are any illusions [about a conflict of interest], they're in the mind of solicitor general John Les. It's been made clear by the official opposition and now by this report that they should be under different ministers, and they're basically putting it on the backburner for further consideration and review, rather than acting on it."

But aside from conflicts of interest at the higher levels, the report also calls on the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch to focus more on enforcement at the lower levels, including retailers.

"We believe enforcement currently does not have sufficient prominence within the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch," the report said, adding that a whistleblower program should be implemented within the branch.

The report also recommends the B.C. Lottery Corporation implement a fraud detection system to monitor suspicious activity, something the corporation has already planned to implement, and raise its standards of documenting security investigations.

Les said that the government will consider all of the recommendations but will not commit to implementing all of them.

"That was in fact [Deloitte's] recommendation — take a look at it and take into consideration their comments. So we're going to be doing that. What flows from that will obviously come after we've taken a good hard look at it," he said.

Lali said the changes are needed now.

"I think the management system by the Liberals is broken. They're mishandling it," said Lali. "When they were in opposition [the Liberals] said they were opposed to an expansion of gaming when the NDP was trying to do a modest expansion. What they've done is try to increase gaming by over 125 per cent in terms of how many casinos are opening up and slot machines going in."

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Student reps joke about ban

David Karp

Members of the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) board called for a national campus ban on military recruitment to announce their attendance at a national meeting, the Martlet has learned.

At the opening and closing plenaries of November's Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) annual general meeting in Ottawa, members of the UVSS shouted, "Keep our campuses military-free," to identify the society during roll call. A controversial ban on military recruitment by the UVSS board of directors was overturned by a large majority at the society's annual general meeting in October.

Caitlin Meggs, UVSS director of academics as well as the society's representative on the B.C.-CFS board, said the slogan was a joke.

"Everyone laughed," said Meggs. "It's like making fun of ourselves. We have a sense of humour about what happens at our students' society."

It's common for student unions to shout out humorous slogans to identify themselves during roll calls at CFS conferences. Students from Carleton University, for instance, shouted "Carleton salutes you!" while giving the finger.

But some people at the meeting weren't sure whether UVic's slogan was a joke or not.

"There was chuckles," said DJ Lam, a Kwantlen Student Association representative at the meeting. "But it wasn't so much the chuckles — there was a lot of cheering.

"When you compare it to Carleton's one-finger salute, it was a slightly different reaction. Carleton got chuckles — UVic got cheers."

NATIONAL NEWS

U.S. war resisters gain MP support

Josef Hochleitner
RYERSON FREE PRESS

TORONTO (CUP) — The Supreme Court of Canada announced its decision not to hear the appeals of U.S. war resisters Jeremy Hinzman and Brandon Hughey on Nov. 15. But the Canadian government's citizenship and immigration committee has already passed a motion expressing its support for the two Americans.

The two men's lawyer, Jeffrey House, later told NOW magazine that "it may take six months before Jeremy Hinzman and Brandon Hughey are deported to the U.S." since their pre-removal risk assessment hearings have not been held yet and their final deportation orders must be signed by Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Diane Finley.

On Nov. 20, Olivia Chow, federal MP for Toronto-Spadina, attempted to pass a motion in the Commons citizenship and immigration committee, with the support of NDP and Bloc Quebecois MPs, granting special immigration status to U.S. war resisters refusing to serve in Iraq. Liberal members on the committee voted for a deferral of the motion and called for hearings on the matter.

On Dec. 6, the committee adopted a motion, by a seven-to-four vote, recommending that the federal government immediately implement a program to allow war resisters and their families to stay in Canada. The motion also calls for an immediate halt to deportation proceedings in these cases.

No action is expected before parliament returns from its winter recess on Jan. 28.

The War Resisters Support Campaign has called for a Pan-Canadian Day of action on Jan. 26. Despite freezing temperatures approximately 200 people attended the protest in Toronto on Nov. 15 and organizers are hoping for similar turnout in January.

Speakers at the November rally included Terry Downey from the Ontario Federation of Labour, Sid Laconue from the Canadian Peace Alliance, the president of the Canadian-Arab Federation, a Toronto city councillor and a United Church minister. The speakers called on the federal government to amend the immigration law to allow U.S. war resisters to remain in Canada.

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Enviro groups team up

Matthew Christie

Co-operation is key in halting the cascading effect of global warming, and no one seems to understand this better than student groups.

"Sustainability isn't just one step, but a process — a series of projects taking strides towards an end goal," explained UVic sustainability co-ordinator Sarah Webb.

Some interesting environmental projects are being undertaken by student groups. The University of Victoria Students' Society is sponsoring a campaign to increase transit on campus. Common Energy is releasing their climate change report this month that will make recommendations for moving the university beyond carbon neutral.

"Everyone has a role to play in making the university sustainable," said Webb. "Institutionally, we implemented 100 per cent recycled paper; individually, people should reduce their paper use."

Various environmental organizations often work together, like Common Energy, the University of Victoria Sustainability Project (UVSP) and the Campus Community Garden who created the Food Collaborative. The Collaborative provides local organic food on campus, and also created a 2008 local foods calendar.

In the past, activism at UVic took the form of a campaign in which students would make demands and then fight against the administration to see the demands implemented. But the paradigm is shifting from "fighting against" to "working with" the administration so that students engage in the project as leaders and facilitate the change personally.

The sustainability co-ordinator position epitomizes this new approach. Established in 1998, this position was developed to address environmental issues on campus by facilitating partnerships between faculty, staff, students, administration and the broader community. Over the years, these partnerships have resulted in the conversion of parking spaces into LEED certified buildings, compost bins on campus, and recently 100 per cent recycled bond paper on campus.

"The environmental movement has been in the process for a long time," said Campus Community Garden volunteer Daniel Geselbracht. "There's been increasing eagerness to get involved, coinciding with a realization of the capacity the university has as a learning institution to impart change toward a positive future."

The Campus Community Garden has established a working relationship with Environmental Studies 200 classes whereby students participate in the maintenance and planting of gardens during their tutorials.

"I don't think you'd find something like this at just any university," said UVSP director Mike Dodd, whose organization is launching a student grants system to provide students with the financial means to pursue green initiatives on campus.

Wheels turning on carbon reductions

Charlotte Barrow

Canadian federal and provincial governments are exploring measures to decrease our contribution to climate change.

The National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, a federal advisory panel, released its recommendations Jan. 7 for reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by 60 to 70 per cent by 2050.

The call for action comes despite the Conservative party's opposition to a carbon tax. "That is something this government will never do," Stephen Harper said in 2006.

While Liberal leader Stéphane Dion originally opposed carbon taxes, he now appears to be warming up to the idea.

Included in the advisory panel's report is the adoption of a carbon tax or a carbon-trading system — often called cap-and-trade. A carbon tax would force those contributing to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions to pay for their actions. The revenue from such taxes would be used to pursue further reductions in carbon emissions.

But carbon trading would require firms polluting more than their fair share to purchase permits from those using less.

Both the Liberal and Conservative governments have failed to reduce carbon emissions to a level that would meet Canada's commitment under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The accord called for a reduction of greenhouse gases to six per cent below 1990 levels by 2012. Instead, they have reached 30 per cent above those levels.

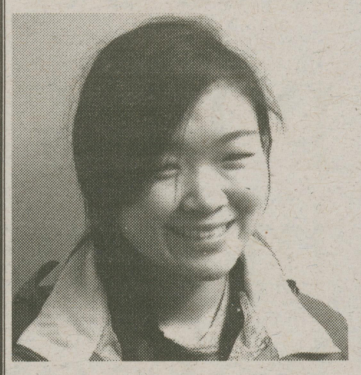
Despite the federal lag, provincial governments are going ahead with carbon reduction strategies. In October, Quebec became the first province to implement carbon taxes.

Both British Columbia and Manitoba are members of the Western Climate Initiative, a regional reduction strategy that started in the western United States before spreading north. The initiative is now part of the International Carbon Action Partnership, formed in October 2007 and including countries and regions pursuing a cap-and-trade system.

B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell announced the creation of a Climate Action Team in November. It will function as an advisory panel to the provincial government, offering advice on reducing B.C.'s greenhouse gas emissions by 33 per cent by 2020, while suggesting achievable reduction targets for each four-year interval until then. The province has also committed to being "carbon neutral" by 2010. Seven members of the UVic community, including one undergraduate student, have been asked to serve on the panel.

Your take

What should Canada do about greenhouse gas emissions?



"Fund more research projects, focus less on the military, and offer better, affordable technology."

- Emilee Gaebler, Spanish and poli sci student

"Where to start? Realistically we have to look beyond Kyoto."

- Amy Zicker, poli sci student

"I'm all for renewable energy, but extra taxation isn't fair."

- Joseph Rasmussen, math and physics student

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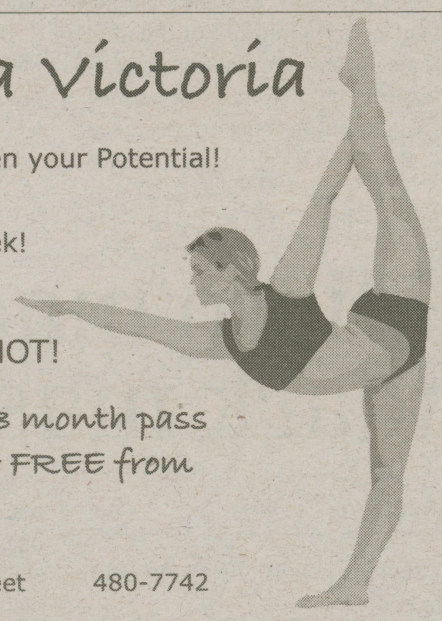

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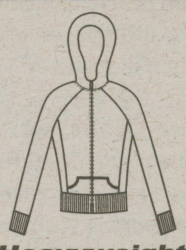

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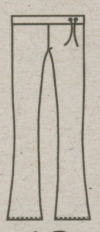

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Blood donor policy rooted in reason, not homophobia

Bloody hell. Students across Canada are upset about a certain policy espoused by Canadian Blood Services which prohibits homosexual men who have been sexually active after 1977 from donating blood.

Student unions are brandishing figurative pitchforks, shouting the war cry of discrimination and human rights. Gay rights groups are alongside them, demanding the right to give blood.

Is the blood of gay men our business? Is the blood of any particular group our business? The answer has to be yes, because recipients have a right to clean, safe, screened blood.

Still, we need to question if the basis for denying gay men the opportunity to donate blood is based on bias, or a real risk to the public. Is this a gay issue or a health issue?

The Canadian Blood Services website claims it's a health issue. "In Canada, approximately 75 per cent of reported AIDS cases, since the beginning of the epidemic, have been traced to transmission from one male to another male during a variety of forms of sexual contact," the site reads. "Studies of the presence of antibodies to the virus confirm that infection with HIV is also more frequently found among men who have had sex with other men."

The above language is not homophobic. Fact is fact, even if it isn't convenient.

However, we need to be wary that this data does not translate into a continuous predisposition to reject blood from gay donors. Health trends change over time, and data needs to be reviewed. Experts are now saying that the demographics are changing. That means that we need to keep our eyes and ears open and acknowledge that health trends can be independent of sexual orientation. We live in a world in which increasing awareness campaigns focused on AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections pave the way for a healthier society in the future. When it's safe, we should let homosexuals donate blood and save lives too.

But for now, it appears there is still a significant risk of contaminated blood from gay donors. It would be irresponsible of Canadian Blood Services to ignore this. For that matter, it would be irresponsible for Canadian Blood Services to ignore any other health risk associated with the transfer of blood, something the organization is aware of.

"Heterosexuals at risk of transmissible diseases are also deferred from giving blood," Canadian Blood Services website reads. "Heterosexuals who have participated in activities that put them at an increased risk for transmissible diseases, or who have had sexual contact with an individual whose background is uncertain, are also not acceptable as blood donors."

Health issues have to trump gay rights in this case. Are we all so hung up on equality that we would put a young child's life on the line to satisfy a few activists? Are we going to risk the health of those who need transfusions to satisfy the platitudes of political correctness, no matter what medical research says?

We certainly hope not.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 3:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

ANOTHER POLI SCI PARTY

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Time of season for loving

Spencer Anderson

'Tis the time of year for peace on Earth and good will to everyone.

Beyond Christmas and other religious holidays, though, we have the new year. I'm a romantic sort of person, so for me the new year brings the chance to start fresh with an old acquaintance or get to know someone new. For those of you beginning to get a little queasy, I would grab a bucket. It's going to get much worse.

The best way to spend the new year is in the pursuit of the affections of someone you find to be extraordinary. Too many of us forgo this pursuit because we decide we are too busy, it is too difficult, or that it demeans us somehow.

There are endless ways for us to improve ourselves, which I think is the reason it's great to be a human (and unfortunate to be, say, a dog). However, Jan. 1 should be a launchpad to give love another chance. The one thing we may all regret on our deathbeds is that we did not love enough.

I curse the somewhat restrictive confines of my own words, but let me borrow the words of others where I fail:

"Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength while loving someone deeply gives you courage."
- Lao Tzu

"At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet." *- Plato*

"Love is friendship set on fire." *- Jeremy Taylor*

"To the world, you may be someone. But to someone you may be the world." *- Unknown*

"Sometimes your nearness takes my breath away and all the things I want to say can find no voice. Then in silence, I hope, my eyes will speak my heart." *- Unknown*

Love is saying you don't want to see someone, but hoping you do. Happy New Year and don't give up your pursuit of that special someone. To be a fool in love is to be on top of the world.

My apologies to the buckets.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Micro machines may mark massive misfortune

Jon Davis

Consider how the world is going to end.

When you entertain the idea of an apocalypse, your mind bends to the all-too-potential scenario of a nuclear war, perhaps accompanied by a shortage of food and water, or even the cinematic rise of the undead. Such events are only a sample from the veritable bevy of potential dooms that could happen any day.

You're walking to class one afternoon and then kaboom! A meteor made of kryptonite and irony strikes the planetarium. Plausible? Yes. But one particular apocalyptic event is more likely to occur than the rest. It's called self-replicating nano-robots, or even more succinctly: Grey Goo.

Imagine you just invented a teeny tiny robot, even smaller than the grain of salt with which you should read this piece. Your nano-robot has been programmed to replicate its own structure, building copies of itself using materials around it — for instance, pollution in the ocean.

In your infinite wisdom, you created this robot to clean up oil spills. So you release it into the wild and watch as thousands of duplicate nano-robots chew through that oil faster than Captain Planet. But then you discover that you've made a programming error, and that the nano-robots are now chewing through carbon!

Nice going genius. Your little experiment is now eating through rock and forests and even people like you and me.

It's easy to see how, left unabated, thousands-turned-millions of nano-robots could take over the Earth, eventually eating it.

The seemingly benign vernacular of "grey goo" describes the gelatinous state in which these little rascals leave anything in their path: grey and gooey. Scientists remain unclear as to exactly what level of viscosity or opaqueness the goo will manifest. However, by the time the Grey Goo covers most of the Earth and when the life of every creature and person has been extinguished by your terrible invention, there won't be any scientists left.

You monster.

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The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

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Hope for a better new year

An optimistic personal wish list includes world peace, cure for AIDS, Johnny Depp

Amber Dujay

Over the holidays, I visited a zoo with my family and we happened to walk by a cage of monkeys. I commented on how we are genetically very similar to monkeys.

"What?" my mother retorted. "You're talking about an animal that fights by flinging poop at one another!"

I wittily replied, "Humans shoot each other with guns. Last I checked, poop doesn't kill anyone."

Wouldn't it be wonderful if 2008 was a year in which people could stop desiring to hurt one another? This led me to think of what other wonderful "resolutions" and hopes I have for the world this year.

Maybe people will stop treating the world as their garbage can and we will realize that once we kill it, it isn't coming back.

We will begin to treat the homeless like actual people who have struggles far more difficult than we can ever imagine, rather than treating them like the lepers of society.

I hope that the Conservative government will stop their bid to reduce the GST by 1 per cent, and instead use that money for many valuable, underfunded government

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

programs such as health care, primary education, foreign aid — even lowering tuition.

Maybe our UVic Students' Society could stop acting like children (not all of them, all the time — just some of them, most of the time) and remember that they were elected to act in the best interest of students and not follow personal agendas.

I wish that Maclean's would stop portraying university students as nothing more than sex-crazy booze hounds and realize that many of them are highly dedicated and hard-working individuals who balance two or three jobs, schoolwork and other extracurriculars.

Wouldn't it be great to live in a world where as much medical research, time and money was put toward solving cancer or AIDS as is spent on solving erectile dysfunction and allowing 80-year-old men to continue having sex? Or a world where the media paid as much attention to famine, disease, or global warming as they do to Britney Spears' crotch?

If the world spent as much time and energy on helping our fellow man as we do on attempting to lose weight, imagine what we could accomplish. What would happen if the deaths of 8 million people in Darfur received a quarter of the attention that the death of Anna Nicole Smith received?

This could also be the year where we started treating service workers as human beings.

I also hope that 2008 is the year we destroy parsley as I have yet to see any purpose for it other than getting caught in your teeth and adding a little colour to a plate.

This could be the year that we stop using racial, sexist or prejudiced slurs and comments and realize that all they do is make the speaker look like an uneducated imbecile.

I hope that 2008 becomes the year in which we realize that genocide needs to be stopped and that there is no justification for violence, torture, animal abuse, child molestation and so many other crimes against humanity.

That is my wish list. It's idealistic and, some might say, naive, but that's OK. I strive to be hopelessly optimistic about the fate of the world, rather than a pessimist who believe that nothing can ever change.

And a final idealistic hope for 2008: I would really love it if Johnny Depp could be sitting on my bed waiting for me when I got home from school today.

Small adjustments steer the course

Will Johnson

Everybody loves New Year's resolutions.

Whether you abandon them after a day, a week, a month — it doesn't matter — there is just something exciting about telling people that this year you're going to change it up. You're going to do things differently. You're going to drink less, study more, lose weight — whatever.

"New Year's resolutions are stupid," my roommate tells me. "If you really want to change, why not do it right now? Why wait?"

If you think you have a drinking problem, then why not put down your seventh beer of the night and just call it quits? If you're unhappy with your weight, why not put down the nachos and go for a run?

> New Year's Resolutions are the perfect excuse for obnoxious, irresponsible and childish behavior.

My roommate is missing the point. If you know you're not going to eat ice cream for a month, why not go on a week-long binge before New Year's Eve? If you know you're going to be locking yourself in your room all semester, why not party hard over Christmas break?

New Year's Resolutions are the perfect excuse for obnoxious, irresponsible and childish behavior. Sleep until noon everyday of December, because when January comes you're going to be jogging every morning before your 8:30 a.m. class. Chow down on chocolate or candy, because when January rolls around you're going to be living on lettuce wraps and water. At least that's what we tell ourselves.

Here's the problem: New Year's resolutions are too vague. Instead of making specific goals, people endeavor to be more this or less that. They tell themselves they'll make enormous changes, but never bother to figure out how. They never quite decide how they'll go about accomplishing their lofty goals.

This reminds me of my friend Stephannie, who declares she will never drink again every time she's hungover. Or my friend Janet, who litters her speech with an elaborate array of vulgar language, but every now and then declares that she needs to "stop ****ing swearing so g****** much."

This year, I decided to nail down a short to-do list. I've got a letter to write, a scrapbook to fill, jobs to apply for and shopping to do. I can check off each specific task as I complete it, and I don't have to worry about denying myself anything or trying to turn around my entire life in some abstract way.

Number five on my to-do list? Write an opinions piece for the Martlet. Mission accomplished.

Liberal wrongly denies Canadian troops in Iraq war

Tim Fournier

The Strategic Counsel recently conducted a poll revealing that the "greatest achievement" in Canadian foreign policy was "saying 'no' to Canada's involvement in the invasion of Iraq." That's a laugh.

According to Gordon O'Connor, then-Minister of National Defence, this achievement "is not in concert with the facts. Canada had and has troops serving in Iraq ... Some of these members are operating at the highest level of command."

Stephen Harper agrees that "there have been ... Canadian military personnel embedded in American and allied units ... since the beginning of the war."

Former U.S. ambassador to Canada Paul Cellucci went as far as to say, "Ironically, Canadian naval vessels, aircraft and personnel in the Persian Gulf ... provide more support indirectly to this war in Iraq than most of the 46 countries that are fully supporting the efforts."

Despite these tactless revelations of reality, Liberal MP Keith Martin continues to lie to Canadians. Martin not only denied claims of Canadian involvement, but said that during his tenure as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence, he most definitely would have known if Canadians were in Iraq. Questions of military involvement and embedded troops were posed to Martin multiple times for clarification, always with a resounding "No." Martin must have been too busy to observe the Governor General awarding the Meritorious Service Cross to Major-General Walter J. Natynczyk for his "outstanding leadership and professionalism while deployed as Deputy Commanding General of the Multi-National Corps during Operation Iraqi Freedom." Natynczyk led 10 separate brigades consisting of more than 35,000 troops, and played a "pivotal role in the development of numerous plans and operations."

This one example should suffice here, so I won't mention the 1,300 navy forces involved in "shock and awe," 31 soldiers on exchange, 25 military planners, the chief of staff for NATO's Iraqi security force training mission, the personnel aboard U.S. E-3s, the CC-130 military transport planes, our special forces, or the countless "made in Canada" bullets which find their way into the heads of Iraqi civilians. Google it.

I attended a speech Martin gave at UVic. Admittedly, I got a little infuriated and called Martin a liar. Refusing to respond, he suggested that I write him a letter; others suggested I apologize for my outburst. I did the former and considered the latter, writing a very polite and concise letter outlining my concerns, to which I received no reply.

So you know what? Forget the pleasantries. It's time we hold politicians like Martin to account.

COUCHSURFING

A guide to sleeping in strangers' living rooms

by Nadine Sander-Green

> I tried to remember if I had ever witnessed the birth of a koala bear or the view from the top of Mount Everest. I hadn't.

When I stepped off the train at the Växjö station, I felt like I was going on a blind date.

I found Johnny right away, and he looked identical to his profile picture. He was middle-aged with a round stomach, skinny little legs and a turkey wattle flap of skin that swung below his chin.

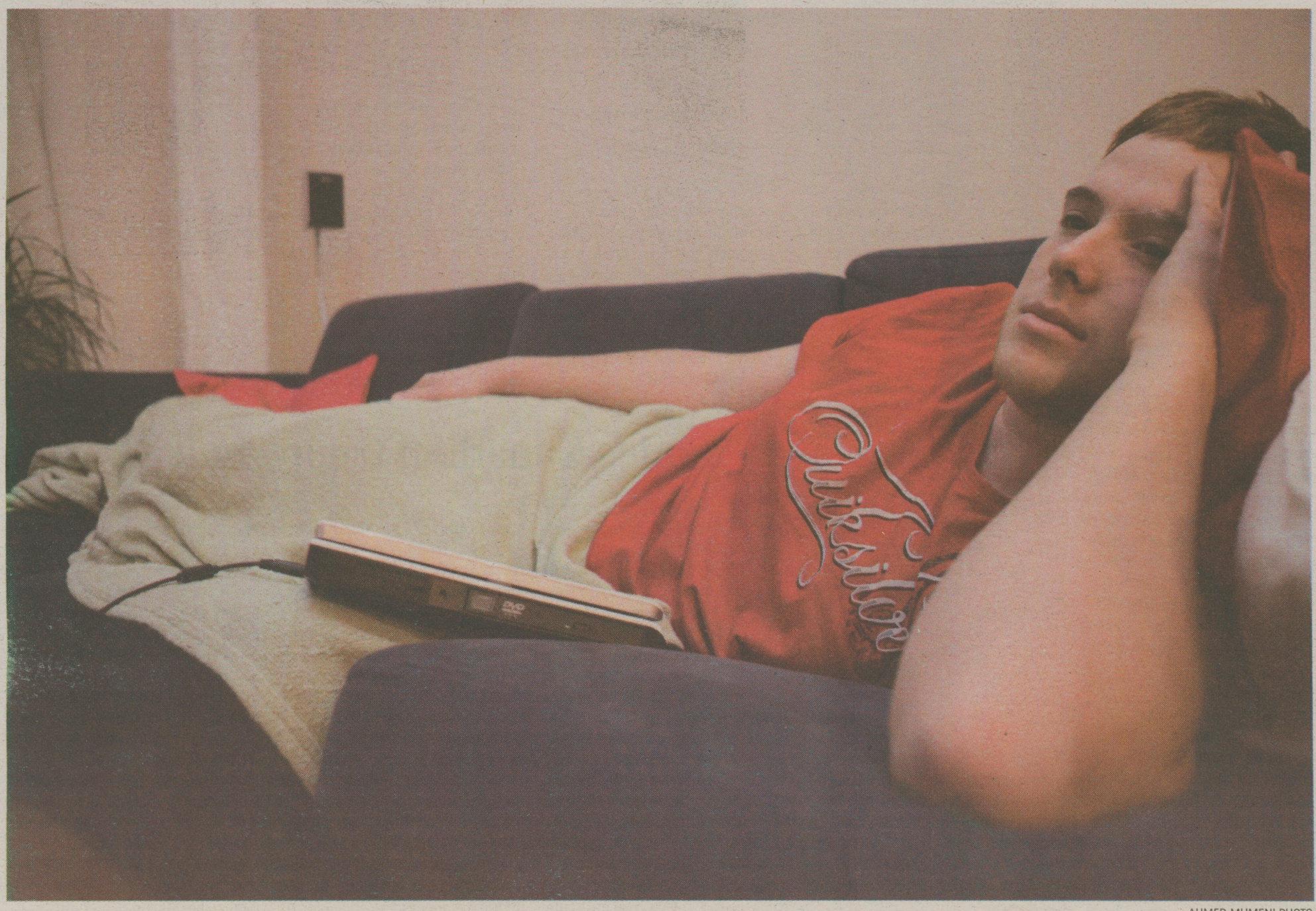
I was about to embark on my first couchsurfing experience. CouchSurfing.com, a non-profit online network created by 28-year-old Casey Fenton, allows travellers to stay on locals' couches for free. You create a profile, upload a few photos, state whether or not your couch is "available for surfing," and ta-dah — you're part of the network.

Fenton wrote on his blog that the idea for the network came from a weekend trip to Iceland. After stumbling across the University of Iceland's directory, he forwarded a "nice letter" to 1,500 students asking if he could crash on their couch for a few nights. In less than a day he got over 50 positive responses, and the concept of couchsurfing was born.

"Couchsurfing seeks to internationally network people and places, create educational exchanges, raise collective consciousness, spread tolerance and facilitate cultural understanding," the network's mission statement reads. That sounds fancy, I thought, but is it really anything more than a place for sleep-deprived backpackers to save a few dollars?

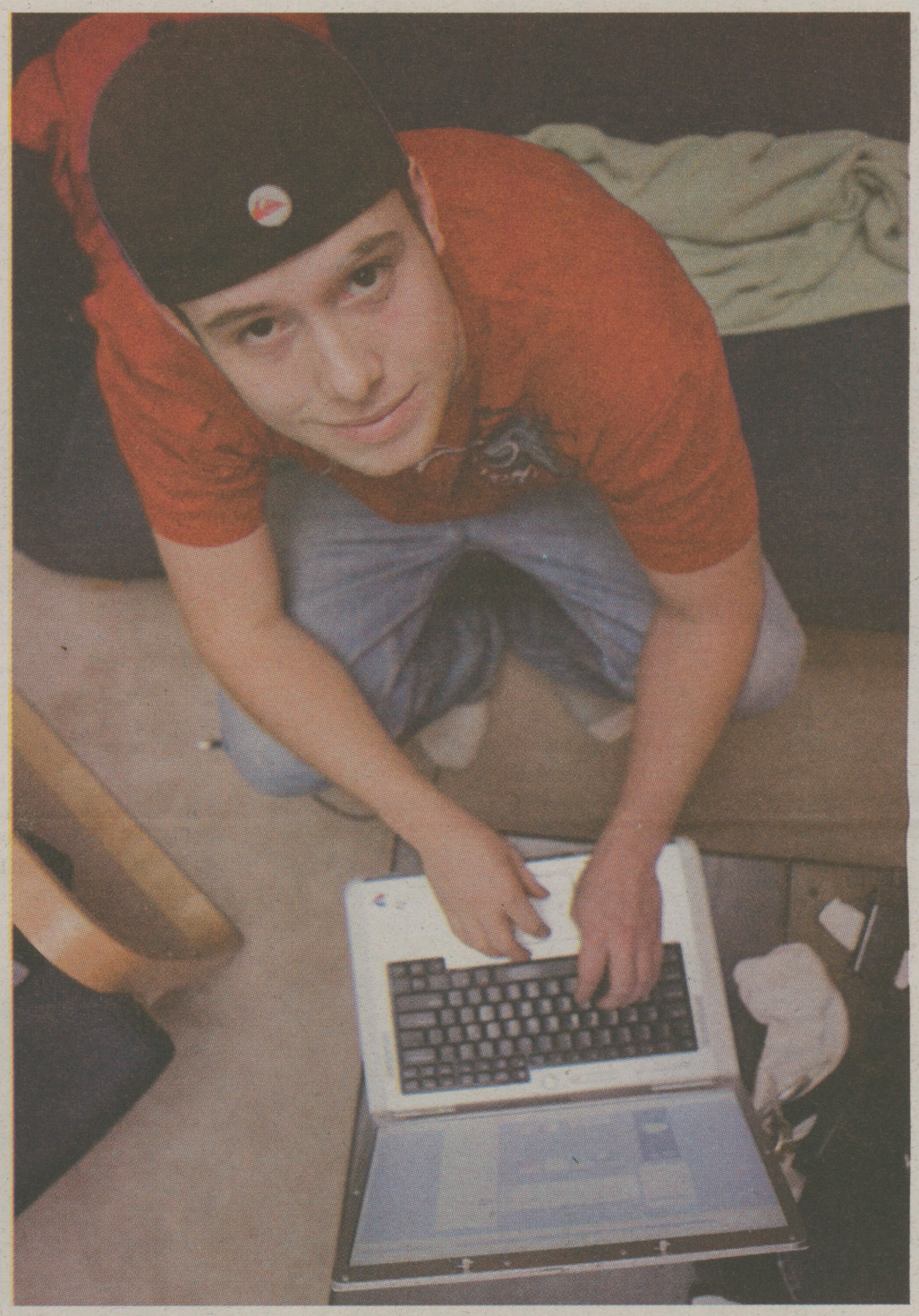
While living in the United Kingdom last year, I decided to set up my own couchsurfing account. I typed my name, birth date, and address, but then the questions got harder. What is your mission in life? What can you teach fellow couchsurfers? What is the most amazing thing you have ever seen? I tried to remember if I had ever witnessed the birth of a koala bear or the view from the top of Mount Everest. I hadn't.

I found Johnny and Birggitta Jonnason's profile after booking a flight to Sweden for spring break.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Two hours later, I stood anxiously on the side of the road as if it were my first day of kindergarten. After waiting for five minutes, I began to worry that Johnny and Birggitta had fled the country with all of my belongings.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

After searching through profile after profile of hip young blond students from Stockholm, their picture appeared on my screen. Johnny and Birggitta lived in a little red farmhouse in the rural province of Smaland in southern Sweden. The land is characterized by long stretches of lakes, bogs and the occasional windmill, and the culture — at least from a tourist's point of view — revolves around Pippi Longstocking and those bird's nest cookies that crumble in your mouth so wonderfully. It just seemed right.

I also think I picked Johnny and Birggitta because I was hungry for the family dynamic. I had been going to school in the United Kingdom for almost a year and missed the nurturing air that seemed to seep out my parents's pores. That year was my first Christmas away from home, which I spent in a Star Trek-themed trailer in the middle of the Scottish highlands.

So when Johnny drew me in for a hug at the train station, I was relieved.

"You are Nadine, yes?" Johnny told me to follow him and I watched him put my backpack in his car. He told me to look around Växjö and then meet him back at the station in two hours. I agreed, and then watched him drive away with my belongings.

❧

Ever since I heard about couchsurfing, the idea intrigued me. It goes against the modern tendency of hiding behind locked doors and fancy home security systems, in an age where brushing against someone's arm on the bus is followed by apologies and a valiant effort to avoid any eye contact. Why, in the midst of this isolationism, are we inviting strangers to sleep on our couches?

"It's not human to distrust or ignore people. We're social beings and slowly have been pushed apart," said Charlie Latimer, a Canadian ambassador to the CouchSurfing.com network. Ambassadors volunteer at least 20 hours per month, dealing with users' concerns and conducting outreach. "I think it might be one of the safest ways of travelling. Having people from the area that are willing to help you is more important than anything else you can have for your safety in a strange land."

Safety is usually the first thing people ask about when I tell them about couchsurfing. Although the network is free to join, there is the option of becoming a "verified member" by sending your credit card number and handing over $22 to help with the maintenance of the site and couchsurfing conventions. An easier way to make sure your host isn't going to steal your passport or stay up all night and watch you sleep is reading their references. Usually, after staying on someone's couch, a traveller will write a short blurb about how their experience was.

The article on the website, *A solo women's guide to couchsurfing*, suggests that both women and men should read all their hosts' references before agreeing to stay with them. It also suggests that women wear a wedding ring or carry a "metal whistle," but I think that's taking it a bit too far. I have yet to meet anyone who's had a couchsurfing experience that's compromised their personal safety.

Latimer, who lives in Vancouver and works for the Greenpeace foundation, admits that couchsurfing isn't always such a smooth process. "First meetings are a little awkward," he said. "Obviously people check each other's profiles, but the one thing I learned is that you can't tell a person from what they write on a web page."

Ask most people who've tried couchsurfing, and they'll agree that the network is more than just a way to finagle your way out of paying for a hostel. The host's only duty is to provide a couch, but that's rarely all they do. Hosts will often guide a surfer around their city, take them to meet friends, or cook them a local dish for dinner. They'll ignore the painful sound of snoring from the living room at night and tiptoe around the couch in the morning.

"In a sense it's bringing everyone closer together. I think that if people learn to communicate with each other it will have ripple effect, from a local to a more grand scale," said Latimer.

And the website is growing in scale too. Given that more than 2,000 people create couchsurfing profiles a week, one wonders if the community will eventually grow to the size of MySpace or Facebook.

Latimer would be surprised if that happened. "Unlike those sites, this one asks its members to do something: trust people," he said.

❧

Two hours later, I stood anxiously on the side of the road as if it were my first day of kindergarten. After waiting for five minutes, I began to worry that Johnny and Birggitta had fled the country with all my belongings.

When they finally arrived, I slunk into the back seat and we drove deeper into the Swedish countryside. As we neared their farmhouse, Johnny explained his job description in stunted English. Birggitta told me about the wild boars that forage in her garden at night. She said that a few years ago she was just plucking the last carrots as the sun started to set, when a boar emerged from the bushes and ran towards her, head tilted upwards and mouth open. She lifted her pant leg to reveal a pink scar.

Before dinner, they showed me how to salt a herring and we took shots of peppermint schnapps. I ate and ate, and spent the rest of the evening resting my fish-full belly in their cedar sauna, listening to Johnny and Birggitta recount their own couchsurfing adventures. By 11 p.m., they had invited me to spend Easter with them at their family cottage.

I finally crawled upstairs and fell asleep, forgetting I was in the middle of rural Sweden, the place where Pippi Longstocking learned to lift a horse above her head and wild boars roam like stray dogs. Forgetting I had only met Johnny and Birgitta that same morning.

She said that a few years ago she was just plucking the last carrots as the sun started to set, when a boar emerged from the bushes and ran towards her, head tilted upwards and mouth open. She lifted her pant leg to reveal a pink scar.

DVD REVIEW

Flower power still shakin' today

Shakin' All Over
AMÉRIMAGE-SPECTRA

Cloe Williams

Shakin' All Over gives a detailed account of the flower power age of the '60s in Canada. It was this very era that gave birth to the Canadian sound that would set the stage for decades to come.

The DVD is arranged like a dialogue with the viewer, as a series of producers, songwriters and artists give commentary on each other's music, with snippets of live performances from the hit artists thrown in between. Along the way, the history of the music industry is slowly and meticulously integrated into viewers' minds.

"Those were pioneer times — the very beginning of the music industry," explains Wide Mouth Mason's Shaun Verreault. A major turning point occured when Bob Dylan came out with his anthem "Blowing in the Wind," which put a stop to the bluesy sound of the local bands playing in coffee shops. Everything had changed.

Canadians had suddenly realized that they could write their own compositions. Perhaps the beginning was Ian & Sylvia's "Four Strong Winds," which was written in an office building and became a huge hit in the early '60s.

Then Buffy Sainte-Marie hit the scene, setting the stage for Aboriginal artists with songs that spoke to Native issues such as "Universal Soldier." And Gordon Lightfoot brought the small-town vibe to his music with a completely different sound. His naturalistic tone in "If You Could Read My Mind" set him apart, and is perhaps why he was called "the Emily Carr of Canadian song writing" by Matthew Good.

While watching *Shakin' All Over*, viewers can actually feel the energy and avant-garde nature radiating off these musicians as they sweat it out on stage. Overall, the video does a good job of showing a wide range of artists, offering a little something for everyone.

There is even a section dedicated to the explosion of rock 'n' roll music in the mid-'60s, causing shaggy-haired, grungy-clothed groups to suddenly pop up everywhere along Vancouver's 4th Avenue, in Winnipeg's community centres, Montreal's dance halls and Toronto's Yorkville and Yonge Streets.

The DVD also shows how, despite Canadian bands thriving locally, Canada lacked a national musical infrastructure. Many West Coast groups looked south to the psychedelic sounds erupting from San Fransisco and Los Angeles, as it was easier for Vancouver groups to travel the 1,700 kilometres to L.A. than it was to trek all the way to Toronto.

The forerunners of that time were The Collectors, the first Canadian band to have a billboard on Sunset Strip. Garage rock emerged soon after, influenced strongly by The Rolling Stones. Meanwhile, bands such as Ronnie Hawkins and The Hawks ruled Toronto's Yorkville strip with a sound that came from the roots of R&B and country music.

The eclectic mix of entertainment and education makes *Shakin' All Over* the perfect watch for any rainy day. One can sway to the beat of Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild" while the history of Canada is perceived through the eyes of the musicians.

It is interesting to see how various artists have shaped Canadian history with their musical styles, messages and beliefs. After all, these are the very elements that affected the actions and perceptions of millions across the globe.

We could learn a lot today about creating change and shaping history by looking into our past, back to the forefathers of the music industry. *Shakin' All Over* takes us one step closer.

PROVIDED IMAGE

***Shakin'* captures the era that shaped Canadian music as we know it.**

CD REVIEWS

Doucet follows others' glory

Luke Doucet and the White Falcon
Blood's Too Rich
WARNER

Reluctant is a word that comes to mind when the promo pack for Luke Doucet's *Blood's Too Rich* features a glamour shot of the artist sporting a Jheri curl and a collared shirt with flower embroidery. Last time I checked, the '50s were over and artists hoping to gain indie cred with an I'm-sensitive-and-I-like-flowers shirt still get ridiculed.

Luke Doucet is touring with Blue Rodeo this January and it's easy to see how the two acts would fit on the same bill. In Doucet's album's title track "Blood's Too Rich," Jim Cuddy's vocals are featured and the result is reminiscent of Blue Rodeo's *Lost Together*-era recordings. The emotionally-strained, anthemic melodies have a raw yet effervescent feel that's threaded throughout the album. Cuddy also does guest vocals on "The Commadante" and Blue Rodeo bass player Bazil Donovan plays on "Motorbike."

Sick of the name dropping yet? Too bad. The album also features a snappy alt-country version of "The Lovecats" by '80s goth-rockers The Cure. The instrumentation is similar and recognizable, yet Doucet's band of misfits manages their own imprint on the arrangement. This album seems to be setting Doucet up for a long ride on other people's coat-tails, so he's lucky he's got some talent of his own to carry him.

The closing track, "Bombs Away," is a masterpiece with dynamics that one would expect to see in a Weakerthans set list. The quiet-to-loud transitions are well executed and the tom-dominated rhythm creates a tribal shoegazer pop vibe. You'll simultaneously picture Susan Aglukark singing "O Siem" and members of Mogwai swaying to and fro. Dig it.

- Jodie Thomson

Laila Biali
From Sea to Sky
CBC RECORDS

The Canadian music industry has never had a shortage of female vocalists.

Artists such as Celine Dion, Sarah McLachlan, Alanis Morissette and Shania Twain have had such overwhelming worldwide success it might seem a little intimidating to be an up-and-coming female singer like Laila Biali. But amid these artistic giants, Biali has slowly been making a name for herself.

At 26, Biali was the youngest ever double-winner at the 2005 National Jazz Awards.

She has opened for Diana Krall, performed all over the world, and worked with some of the most exciting and talented artists in the industry.

Her latest album, *From Sea to Sky*, offers a diverse lineup of musical stylings. Biali showcases her tremendous range by performing a selection of her own songs as well as covering hits by Feist, Sarah McLachlan and Joni Mitchell.

Some songs are sparse, with just the slight tinkling of a piano or a sultry meandering solo, while others are epic, bounding big band anthems.

The overall feel of *From Sea to Sky* is light and ethereal, and listeners might make comparisons to Norah Jones. It's easy to picture Biali in a glittering gown, performing in a smoky underground nightclub.

For students looking for something mellow to play in the background whilst studying, Biali's voice will be a warm reprieve from the cold January weather outside.

- Will Johnson

Dane Cook
Rough Around the Edges: Live From Madison Square Garden
COMEDY CENTRAL RECORDS

Dane Cook's *Rough Around the Edges* will make you laugh. But, will it make you howl as much as you did when listening to his previous offerings, *Harmful if Swallowed* and *Retaliation*? Probably not.

Cook's latest CD may not have a track that leaves you with tears of laughter streaming down your cheeks the way *Retaliation*'s "Someone Shit on the Coats" did, but watching "A Condom?" on the *Rough Around the Edges* bonus DVD will still make your abs ache. And how could a track titled "Herpolie Urpolies" not make you snicker?

Cook's comedy is as relatable as ever. He can't work his TiVo, he worries about getting a fling pregnant and he gets turned on by a mannequin.

"These are the things I think about while you people are at work," Cook says after spending four minutes talking about how to improve the commercials for sponsoring impoverished children.

Actually, Cook's completely out-there thoughts are the best part of *Rough Around the Edges*. On "War Flute" he talks about how much it must have sucked to be the flutist who led the troops during the Civil War. His imitation of a flute alone will have you chuckling.

The problem with Cook's latest CD is that he seems to be running out of jokes. *Rough Around the Edges* is funny — it just isn't anything new.

- Gemma Karstens-Smith

> Cook's completely out-there thoughts are the best part of *Rough Around the Edges.*

Want to write for the Martlet? Stop by SUB B011 to pick up a CD or DVD for review. Or e-mail living@martlet.ca to get involved.

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The Uvic Grad Class 2008 is now accepting proposals for the
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ASK MISS MARTLET

Don't trip on the tip

Danielle Pope

Dear Miss Martlet:

Tipping confuses me. I know the rule of thumb for a restaurant is 15 per cent, but what about a café where you order at the counter and then they bring you the food? What about a bartender, a cab driver or a pizza delivery person?

- Confused Customer

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Dear Confused:

That general 15 to 20 per cent tipping rule doesn't just apply to restaurants, but also bartenders, cocktail waiters, hairstylists, spa technicians, tattoo artists, taxi or paid shuttle drivers and even the pizza delivery person. But don't forget that you are tipping based on your satisfaction with the service.

That said, everyone has off-days. Your waiter could be a little absent-minded because his mother is sick in the hospital. Talk to the manager about poor service before you skimp on the tip — you'll be doing the customers behind you a favour and giving your waiter a chance to correct his behaviour.

Here are a few of the more confusable tipping-instances and the modern etiquette to match, according to the Tipping Etiquette Guide found at tipguide.org:

• **A café or buffet:** 10 per cent if the server delivers all or part of your meal or keeps your drinks filled.

• **Takeout:** $1 or $2 for good service, but nothing is necessary.

• **Car wash:** $2 or $3 for a car, $3 to $5 for an SUV or large vehicle.

• **Emergency roadside service:** $3 to $20 based on the circumstances.

• **Movers:** $10 to $50 depending on the difficulty and number of items.

• **Porter:** $2 per bag, or more if bags are heavy.

• **Room service:** $1 if gratuity is included, otherwise 15 to 20 per cent of the total charge.

• **Tour guides:** $1 or $2 for a half-day tour per person, $3 to $4 for a full day, or $5 to $10 for a week.

A few more tips: if you hold a table for two serving periods, make sure you tip double. If you have a coupon or gift card for a restaurant or service, tip on the original price. Tip jars have become a fad and are often pressuring, but in general do not feel you have to leave something unless you received special service.

One last note: many service people claim around 12 per cent of sales as income on their tax return. In other words, your server has to pay tax on the earnings from your meal whether you tip or not — just something to keep in mind when feeling stingy.

Got a question? Let Miss Martlet investigate. E-mail missmartlet@martlet.ca.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

The real difference between Scotch and whisky lies in the homeland.

DRINKING WITH DEREK

Let's talk Scotch

Derek Mandel

If I were to take the world's finest grains, put them in an oak cask and ferment them for 100 years, I would have an amazing whisky. Handing it to a Scotsman, I'd receive a nod of the head, a flicker of a smile and a simple criticism: "It's not Scotch."

Ingredients play an integral role in making any whisky, but in the world of Scotch, geography and history are more important. Whiskies are fermented liquors made from different varieties of grains such as rye, barley, wheat and corn. But a Scotch whisky is made in Scotland and has an old family name behind it.

There are two major varieties of Scotch whisky: blended and single malt. A single malt is one batch fermented in a barrel that ends up in the bottle. A blend is a combination of different barrels until the desired flavor is reached. The single malt whisky is more respected, the idea being that they got it right the first time. And single malt whiskies tend to have more identifiable flavors and delicate aromas. Quality comes at a price, however, as single malt Scotch whiskies are more expensive than their blended counterparts.

While travelling in Scotland, I learned that Scotch is to Scotland as wine is to France — they take it seriously. Restaurants include Scotch lists with detailed notes on aroma, character, flavor and history. And there is only one way for it to be enjoyed: straight up. It is a blasphemy to add ice or anything else, as this compromises the hundreds of years of mastery behind each ounce.

Whether or not this applies outside Scotland is entirely up to the drinker.

Questions or comments? Have a favourite drink you'd like to share? E-mail drinkingwithderek@martlet.ca.

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Students line up overnight for intramurals

David Karp

Some students spent a night outside in the cold waiting for intramural registration to open.

This semester UVic launched an online registration system for athletic programs, but opted not to use it for intramurals. That decision left dozens of students camped out in front of the Ian Stewart Complex to secure their spot when intramural registration opened at 7 a.m. on Jan. 7. More than 50 people were in line before 5:30 a.m., when athletics staff arrived to let campers into the building. Another 25 people arrived by 6 a.m.

The eager students had to brave chilly weather, with overnight temperatures falling to 1 C with winds of up to 8 km/h.

Most of the campers were there to sign up for hockey. With two leagues of eight or 10 teams each, people needed to show up by roughly 4 a.m. to secure a spot.

Fourth-year English student Chris Cain was the first person in line. He arrived at midnight to ensure he and his 10 teammates would have a spot in the Wednesday night hockey league.

"I volunteered to do it," Cain said. "I was stupid enough."

The defenceman said he'd prefer to sign up over the Internet next time. "I was kind of hoping hockey would be online," he said. "I'm not very fond of this process, but it gets the job done I guess."

Third-year mechanical engineering student Ben Acton arrived at 12:45 a.m. to register his hockey team. He doesn't mind the in-person registration.

"I think this is better because if you really, really want it, you show up at 9 p.m. and wait all night, and if you don't really care and you show up at 6 a.m. then you might not get it," Acton said.

> "I volunteered to do it. I was stupid enough."
>
> *– Chris Cain on waiting to register for intramurals*

Intramural programmer Paul Smith said intramural registration is offline this semester because not enough students know about the new system, which could create resentment if people who line up overnight lose their spot to someone sitting in front of their computer.

"We have to go through the education process first," he said. "And because we have such demand for hockey, we have to figure out some of the best ways to meet that demand."

The online registration program experienced an early glitch on Jan. 7. Users logging in shortly after 7 a.m. weren't able to select which credit card to pay with, but this problem was corrected by 8:30 a.m.

"We contacted [the service provider's] help desk and they fixed it," said recreation manager Don Chow. "It didn't really impact things."

Smith said the number of people camping overnight was fewer than in previous semesters thanks to online registration for activities. Last semester, 85 per cent of intramural spots were filled on the first day of registration.

"Our demand just keeps getting greater and greater," Smith said, adding that he doesn't expect many new intramural spots will be added any time soon because the university's athletic facilities are reaching capacity. "We're at that point. We're pushing the envelope."

Intramurals run until 11 p.m. six nights per week, with hockey games ending as late as 1 a.m.

DAVID KARP PHOTO

These students aren't homeless — they are just waiting outside the Ian Stewart Complex early on Jan. 7 for intramural registration to open.

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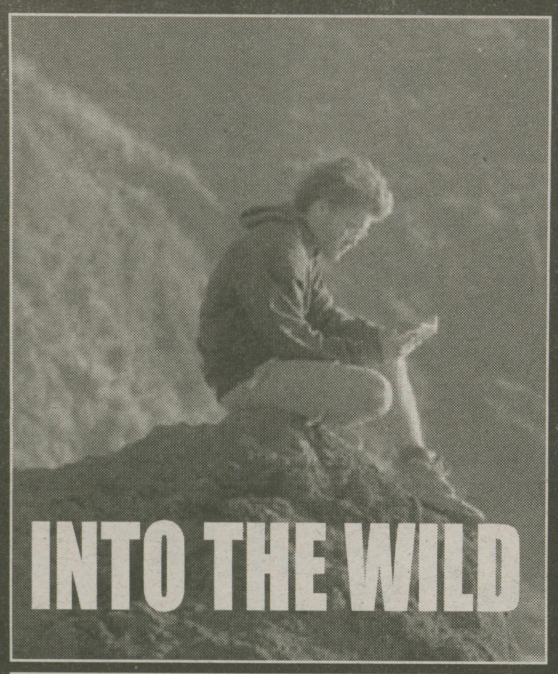
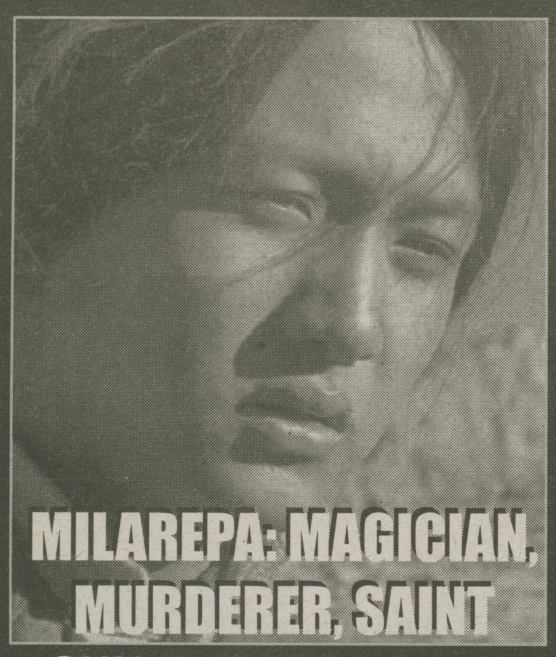


FRI & SAT 2:30, 6:45 & 9:45



SUN 2:30, 7:00 & 9:00
MON & TUES 7:00 & 9:00

TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2007

1. ELBOW BEACH SURF CLUB*
   Billy Club EP (Burnt Oak)
2. OUTLAW SOCIAL*†
   Dry Bones (Self-Released)
3. VARIOUS ARTISTS*†
   All Your Ears Can Hear (AYECH)
4. BONNIE "PRINCE" BILLY
   Ask Forgiveness (Drag City)
5. FEU THERESE*
   Ca Va Congner (Constellation)
6. LE VENT DU NORD*
   Dans Les Airs (Borealis)
7. TULLYCRAFT
   Every Scene Needs A Center (Magic Marker)
8. SONTIAGO
   Steel Yourself (Endemik)
9. RADIOHEAD
   In Rainbows (Self-Released)
10. SHOTGUN JIMMIE*
    The Onlys (Delorean)

* Canadian artist † local artist

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NFL playoffs not as predictable as they seem

Nathan Lowther

The clock is ticking down to Super Bowl XLII in Arizona on Feb. 3. Here's a look at the eight teams battling it out to be in the big game.

American Football Conference (AFC)

The New England Patriots enter the post-season after becoming the second team of the modern era to have a perfect season. If they win the Super Bowl, the Pats will likely be considered the greatest dynasty in American football history. But if they lose, the big-game reputations of quarterback Tom Brady and head coach Bill Belichick are forever scarred, and the perfect regular season is rendered a mere winning streak.

But that pressure is not going to influence the Jacksonville Jaguars or their fierce defence when they take on New England on Jan. 12. The Jags are consistently underrated, with defending champions Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts getting most of the press clippings.

The pre-season saw a big surprise when Jags coach Jack Del Rio cut expected quarterback Byron Leftwich in favour of backup David Garrard. Garrard had a solid season, throwing 18 touchdowns with only three interceptions, as the teams rode a strong running game and aggressive defense to an 11-5 record.

But will that matter against the nuclear offense of the Patriots? Brady set the single season record for touchdowns with 50. Wide receiver Randy Moss caught 23 of those, a new league standard for receiving touchdowns. The team also set a record for most points scored in a season.

Still, the Jags match up well against the Pats. Jacksonville had the second-best rushing attack over the regular season. Running back Fred Taylor earned his first Pro Bowl trip, and Maurice Jones-Drew is a dynamic playmaker. They'll do well against New England's older middle linebackers, Junior Seau and Teddy Bruschi, and should be able to move the ball, keeping Brady on the bench. When Brady does get on the field, the Jaguar pass rush likely won't give Moss time to get deep.

But the Pats might prove simply too good with too many weapons. Brady's quick release may negate Jacksonville's pressure, and leading-receiver Wes Welker, who had 112 catches for New England, should have a big game underneath. Patriots safety Rodney Harrison, fresh after a first-round bye, will help shut down Taylor, and New England's defensive schemes may be too complex for Garrard to figure out. Jacksonville's quarterback will need to make plays with his legs, and x-factor Jones-Drew will need to come up with a big return for the Jags to come out on top.

The winner of that game will meet the victor of the other AFC Divisional Playoff, taking place between the Indianapolis Colts and the San Diego Chargers on Jan. 13. The Colts have designs on casting a dynasty of their own as they strive to defend their crown, while the Chargers are looking to prove they can do more than win in the regular season.

Manning and the Colts have been somewhat buried by the Patriot hyperbole this season, despite becoming the first ever team to win 12 or more games for five straight seasons. But the Colts were bit by the injury bug and have not been the high-octane offense of the past few years. Their defence, however, was tough, giving up the fewest points in the league over the regular season.

What the Colts need now is an answer to the Chargers. San Diego beat Indianapolis earlier this season when they forced Manning into an uncharacteristic six interceptions. Manning would only throw eight more in his other 15 games. With linebackers Shawne Merriman and Shaun Phillips anchoring one of the fastest and strongest defences in the league, Manning will have to be at his best. On offence, the Chargers have running back LaDainian Tomlinson, arguably the world's best football player today. But they look to have lost all-world tight end Antonio Gates last week, so they will be dependent on wide-outs Chris Chambers and Vincent Jackson to repeat their heroics of the first round.

> If they win the Super Bowl, the Pats will likely be considered the greatest dynasty in America football history.

The Chargers, full of Pro Bowlers on both sides of the ball, are still waiting for a deep playoff run. The win over the Tennessee Titans on Jan. 6 was fourth-year quarterback Phillip Rivers first post-season win. But their running game exploits the weakest part of the Colt defence, which is built to rush the passer after Manning puts the team ahead. Manning has been known to get frustrated against defences that are fast and aggressive. As long as Rivers stays cool, the Chargers should be able to power their way to the conference championship game.

National Football Conference (NFC)

On the NFC side, Brett Favre is looking to take his Green Bay Packers back to the Super Bowl. Favre broke most of the NFL's career passing records this season. A second Super Bowl win on his resumé would firmly entrench Favre in the discussion for greatest quarterback of all time, if he's not already there.

But Favre faces the Seattle Seahawks and their sack-tastic defense. The Seahawks get pressure from a multitude of players, and Favre has a reputation for making bad throws when he's being rushed. It's also a chance for redemption for Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck. The last time these two teams met in the playoffs, it was in Green Bay and went to overtime. Seattle won the toss, and Hasselbeck, who was previously Favre's backup in Green Bay, announced into the referee's microphone that he wanted the ball, and he was going to score. He then proceeded to throw an interception that was returned for the game-deciding touchdown.

Seattle's defence is simply too fast for Green Bay's offence and Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren will return to Lambeau Field and get a big victory.

The final matchup is the New York Giants versus the Dallas Cowboys. Giants quarterback Eli Manning gets perhaps more scrutiny than any player in the league, in part from playing in the Big Apple and in part from being Peyton's younger brother, and in part from being traded for a package that included Phillip Rivers when Eli refused to play in San Diego. Eli has a defence which can get to opposing quarterbacks, but he's going to have to show he can step up and make big plays against a top notch defence for the Giants if they're going to lasso a playoff win from the Cowboys.

No team gets more media attention than the Dallas Cowboys. Whether it is because of iconic owner Jerry Jones, outspoken wide receiver Terrell Owens, or quarterback Tony Romo's romantic involvement with Jessica Simpson, there is always a Cowboy making headlines. But they also have a team that can play football. Their defence is downright hostile, and their offense is prolific. Their biggest concern is likely Owens, who is bothered by an ankle sprain. How healthy T.O. is will probably be the deciding factor in who wins this game.

Eight teams, four games, one goal. These warriors don't just seek victory — they seek immortality.

Your take

Do you want to see the Patriots finish with a perfect season?

"I want to see Dallas beat them in the finals."

- Matt Venoit, fourth-year pyschology student

"I want to see them do it. It would be a record, it's history."

- Matt Smith, third-year commerce student

"Yeah, they're a pretty likeable team for being so good. I think they'll win for sure."

- R.J. Hunt, fourth-year poli sci student

"No! Green Bay all the way. The Pats are cheaters."

- Amarat Bains, first-year business student

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MLA Victoria-Beacon Hill

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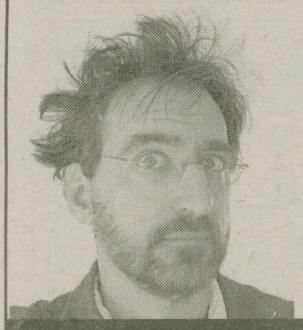

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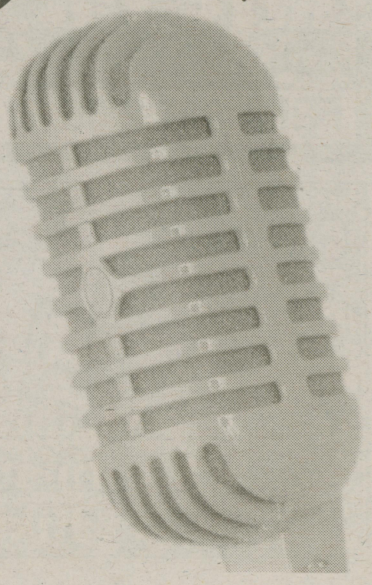


Male synchro swimmer faces adversity

Kimberly Bruce

Bill May could have been an Olympian if he hadn't been born a man.

The American synchronized swimming champion visited Victoria last month to share his experience and coaching talent with the Victoria Pacific Sport Synchro Club at Commonwealth Pool.

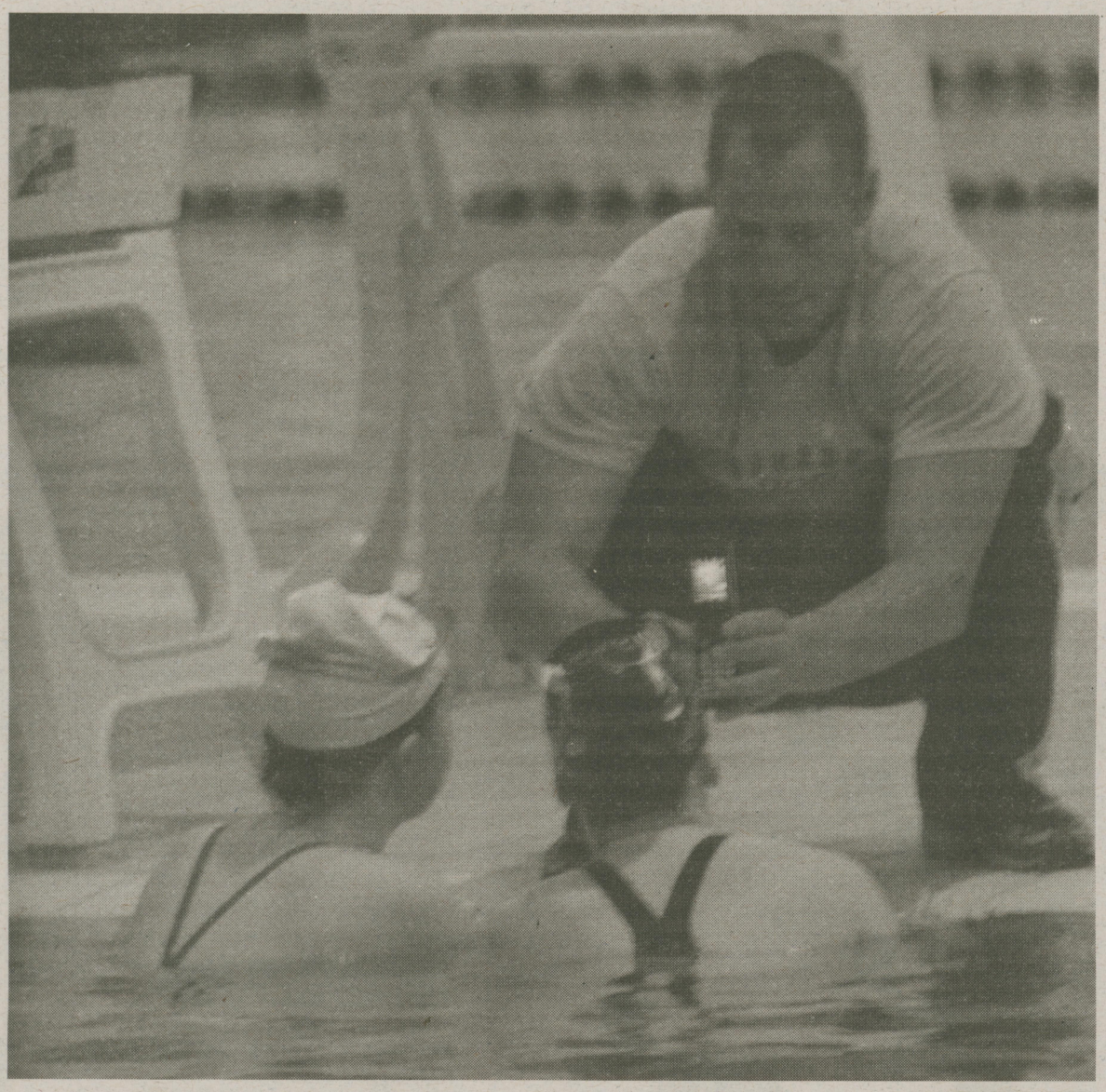
But May never fulfilled his dream of competing in the 2004 Olympics; the sport in which he excels was categorized as women's only. It will remain a women's only sport at the Olympics in Beijing this summer.

Throughout his career May was made the punchline of sportscasters' jokes. He was haunted by an episode of *Saturday Night Live*, where Martin Short made fun of the idea of a male synchronized swimmer. But May just focused on his sport, ignoring the opinions of others.

He became the first professional male synchronized swimmer to win a U.S. Championship in 1998. He performed a solo interpretation of Gene Kelly's dance number from *Singing in the Rain*.

"There was more finesse in that routine for me than just going out and pounding the water," said May. "There were subtle nuances to [Kelly's] dancing that we tried to bring into the water."

The win thrust him into a controversy over how the young sport of synchronized swimming should develop. Some feared adding men would discredit a sport already sneered at by other swim competitors. Others complained that men had an unfair advantage competing against women because they have more upper body strength, allowing them to do higher lifts and propel themselves further out of the water.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Former U.S. synchronized swimmng champion Bill May coaches some swimmers at Commonwealth Pool.

"It's not politically correct to say that someone can't do a sport because of their sex. That would be like taking women out of basketball or baseball," said May.

For him it's a matter of the sport's potential to grow and become more artistic with a mix of male and female competitors. May worked with duet partner Kristina Lum (with whom he had hoped to go to the Olympics) to explore the boundaries of the sport. In one piece, Lum was an angel and May was a demon.

"In duets and teams, I think it would look beautiful to have a man and a woman element of athleticism," he said. "I think I bring an added sense of power to the sport, and when I'm swimming with my duet partner there's sensuality to the sport that you can't have between two women."

May continued to train, compete and win until he was barred from competing in the 2004 Olympics. Instead of swimming, he joined the team as a coach.

Since then, May has focused on coaching. He has helped train some of the up-and-coming male synchronized swimmers with the Santa Clara Aquamaids, the group where he started his own career.

Now working as a professional athlete, May performs with "O," a Cirque du soleil water show in Las Vegas. He says he wears more makeup now than he ever did in competition.

"When I first learned how to do my makeup, it took me four hours and it wasn't even good," he said.

Despite the hurdles, May is still passionate about the sport he's excelled at since he was a 10-year-old practising with his sister at the local pool. He maintains that he stayed in synchronized swimming because it was fun, not to become a pioneer. Still, May is proud to have helped break down barriers for other men who want to participate.

"I feel like I've done things that they can look forward to, so that they know there are competitions that they can go to, and someone is fighting for them and will stand behind them where ever they want to go," he said. "Hopefully they will continue to fight and more men will be inspired to join the sport."

In Victoria, May was happily surprised to find a 10-year-old boy registered in one of his workshops. "I think it's great seeing young guys in the sport," he said. "The more men who get into the sport will push to get doors opened up."

Women fight for Olympic ski jump inclusion

Synchronized swimming is not the only sport facing gender battles at the Olympic level.

A group of female ski jumpers have launched a human rights case in an attempt to force the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to include women's ski jumping in the 2010 Olympics. They say the exclusion of women is discriminatory. The Canadian government recently announced it will support the group.

The IOC is saying that the sport is not yet developed or popular enough to be included in the 2010 Olympics.

Ski jumping became an Olympic sport in 1924.

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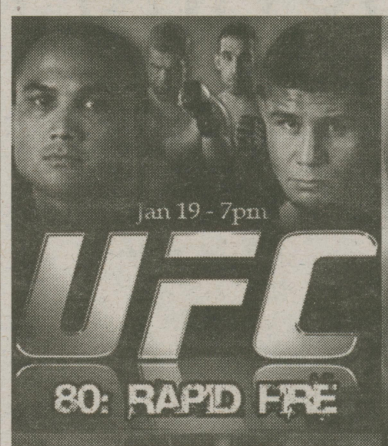
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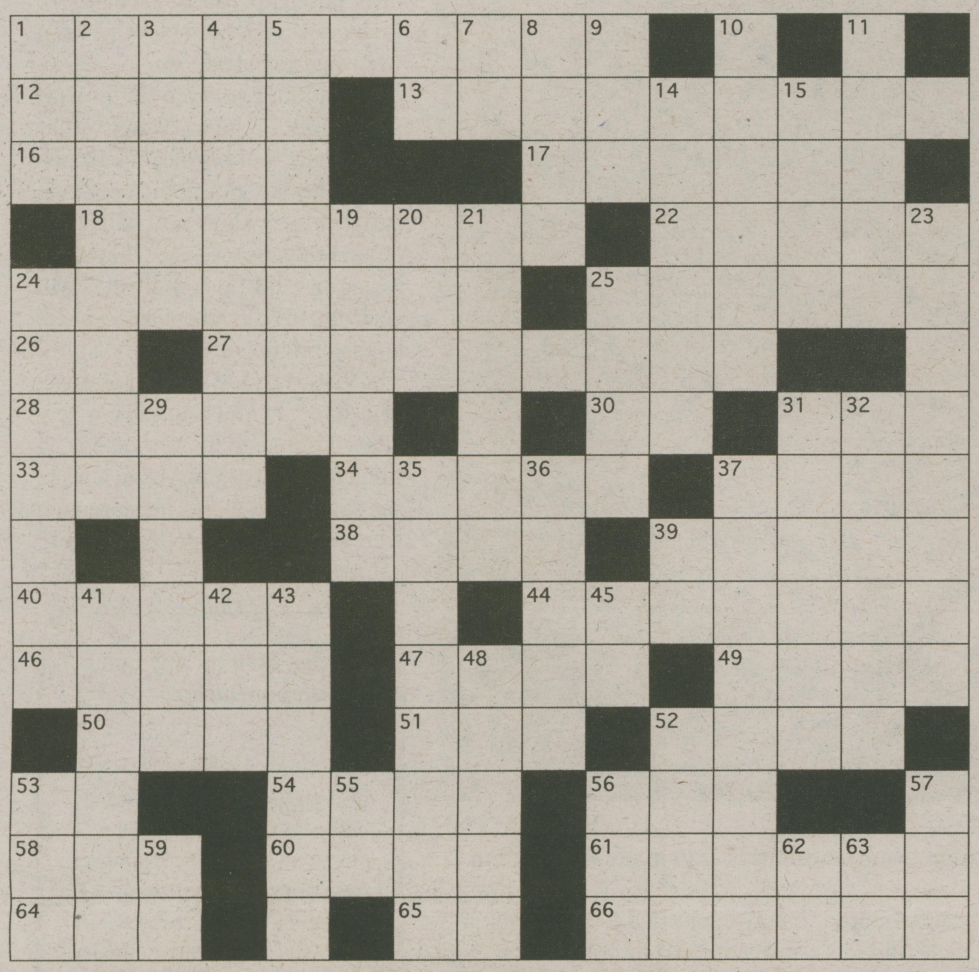
Diversions

The Martlet Crossword by David Karp

ACROSS

1 Italian Edition singer
12 Afghani crop
13 *Wizard of Oz* brain seeker
16 Eighteenth Greek letter
17 Iraqi river
18 San Jose suburb (two words)
22 Avoirdupois, fluid or troy
24 Mexican President Diaz
25 Pertaining to the shin
26 Example abbreviation
27 Include
28 Gun necessity
30 Economics IS -__ model
31 Dr. Seuss's ___ *on Pop*
33 Jerry Springer prize
34 Silly
37 Toronto Raptors star
38 Port Angeles ferry
39 Polynesian greeting
40 Iron Maiden mascot
44 Islamic holiday
46 Children's board game
47 Pet food brand
49 U.S. politician Gingrich
50 B.C. e-zine
51 Charlton Heston organization
52 Old Norse collection of poems or prose
53 *Superman* and *Batman* publisher
54 Environmental certification
56 Anthony Zuiker show
58 What's up, ___?
60 Fencing sword
61 Valuable items
64 Kingston university (abbrev.)
65 Symbol for tin
66 Adventurous hairstyle



DOWN

1 Windows predecessor
2 Book ending
3 Sudden shivers followed by warming
4 Former Secretary of Defense
5 John Lennon hit
6 Leopard or Vista
7 University system which includes Berkley (abbrev.)
8 Synonym for "Darn!"
9 Simon Whitfield's calling
10 Hospital comedy
11 Giacomo Puccini opera
14 Belief in self-interest
15 Sailor Mini Moon
19 Northern region
20 Spanish uncle
21 German brass music
23 White Stripes album
24 Flinstones' daughter
25 Story
29 Former Dallas Cowboys coach
31 Death or a KKK member
32 Fourteenth-largest city in Canada
35 Candidates
36 Marilyn Monroe: _____ Jean Mortensen
37 Coax through flattery
39 Morning
41 Hot industry in late '90s
42 Anger
43 Shoelace hole
45 __ *You Like It*
48 "Could I Be Your Girl?" singer
52 Imperial Oil gas station
53 Popular arcade dance game
55 Mini music release
56 Hockey stars Ward or Neely
57 Pose
59 Include in an email
62 Video game publisher
63 Initials of top-ranked golfer

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6			2		4			8
	8	4	1		7	3	5	
		3	8	2	9	6		
	7						1	
		5	7	1	3	8		
	1	2	6		5	9	8	
7			4		2			6

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Winter Fit Tips provided by Amy Chayko, BHK, BCRPA SFL
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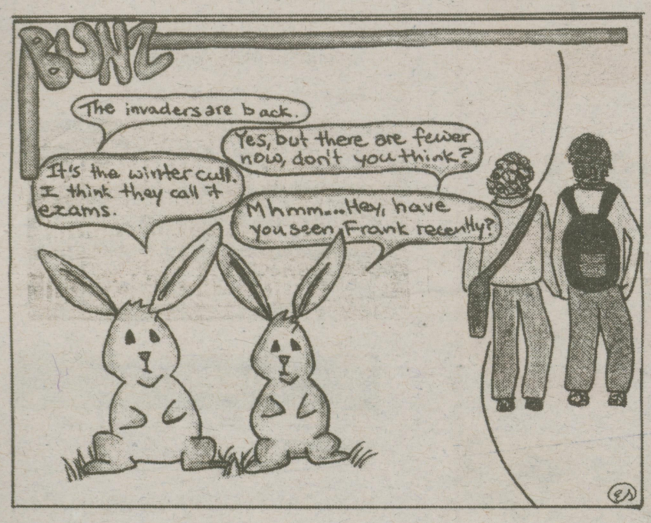
Meicom by Mary Karaplis

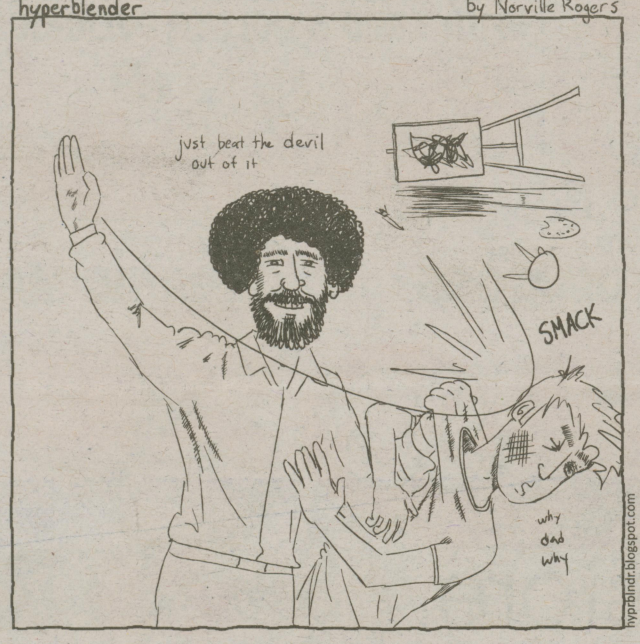
DATING A REFEREE by David Karp

"I hope you're not cheating on me."

Bunz by Ellie Stephenson


BUNZ
The invaders are back.
Yes, but there are fewer now, don't you think?
It's the winter cull. I think they call it exams.
Mhmm...Hey, have you seen Frank recently?
EJ

hyperblender by Norville Rogers

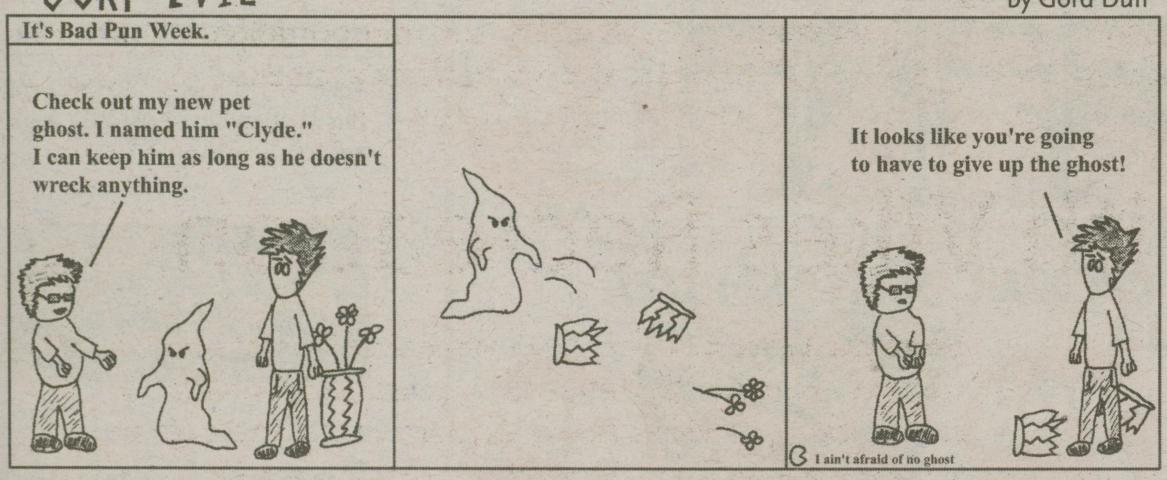


An artist is a man of *passion*.

NOOSEHEAD ©2007 BY SAM LOGAN
READ THEM ALL AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM

LOOK, FUZZ. I'M JUST AS BORED OF THIS HIATUS AS YOU ARE.
BUT IN A FEW WEEKS, WE'LL BE BACK ON TOUR. THEN YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF WAYS TO KEEP BUSY THAT DON'T INVOLVE TORMENTING EARL AND GETTING US FIRED.
YEAH, I GUESS THE SECOND TOUR WILL BE FUN...
...BUT SOMETIMES, I WISH I COULD GO BACK TO MY OLD LIFE! BACK TO THOSE SIMPLER, MORE INNOCENT TIMES...
...WORKING AS A MAFIOSO FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME SYNDICATE.
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ASSISTED THEIR LEADER'S ASSASINATION, THEN.
I KNOW! MAN, THAT'S THE LAST TIME I EVER HELP KILL MY BOSS.
GLAD TO HEAR IT. I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE SCREW UP THE SWEET GIG WE'VE GOT HERE.
WOW! I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER ACTUALLY NUMBED MY OWN TONGUE WHILE KISSING A LADY.
SORRY. I GOT A NEW STUD FOR MY PIERCING.
I MISSED YOU, CRUSH.
I COULD VISIT YOU A LOT MORE OFTEN IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIDING IT FROM EVERYONE.
I KNOW. BUT IF THAT JEALOUS IDIOT SIDNEY FINDS OUT WE'RE DATING, YOU'LL GET FIRED!
THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO COME ON THE TOUR WITH US, AND I WON'T SEE YOU AT ALL FOR EIGHT MONTHS!
UGH! THE LITTLE BRAT ALWAYS HAS TO GET HIS WAY. THAT'S WHY I BROKE UP WITH HIM IN THE FIRST PLACE!
HE NEVER STOPPED TELLING ME WHAT TO THINK, OR WHAT TO WEAR, OR WHAT NOT TO WEAR...
...OR WHAT TO WEAR BRIEFLY, THEN REMOVE, PERHAPS WHILE DANCING AND WIGGLING MY--
TOO MUCH INFORMATION!
JUST MAKING SURE YOU WERE STILL LISTENING, SWEETIE.
SMOOCH!

CORP EVIL by Gord Duff


It's Bad Pun Week.
Check out my new pet ghost. I named him "Clyde." I can keep him as long as he doesn't wreck anything.
It looks like you're going to have to give up the ghost!
I ain't afraid of no ghost

Students of Colour Collective
Annual General Meeting
January 22, 2007
Student Union Building, Room B020
1.30 pm - 2.30 pm
Contact: socc@uvss.uvic.ca

SOC collective

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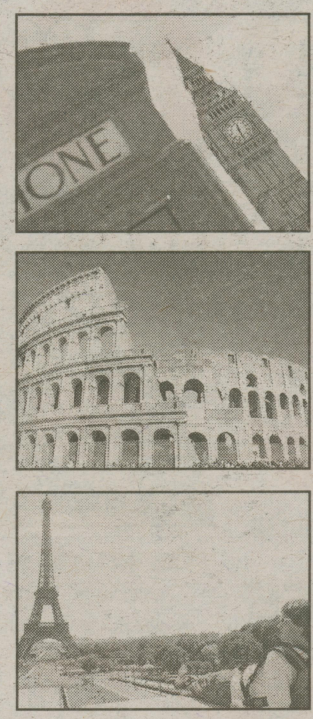

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Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

Coffee with Victoria MP Denise Savoie

10:30am to 12:30 pm

Spiral Café - 418 Craigflower Road
Drop by, say hello and chat to Denise about the federal issues that matter to you. All welcome.
Info: 363-3600.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Art Education Faculty Exhibit (opening)

3:30 pm

UVic, McPherson Library Gallery, and The Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery is pleased to present the fine art of the University of Victoria Art Education faculty members. As teachers and artists, the Faculty's art educators reveal their diverse artistic interests and identities. These are explored in drawings, paintings, collages, prints, ceramics, sculpture, and light displays. Exhibit runs Jan 15-Feb 14.
Info: 721-6313

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Army of None

7pm
UVic, David Strong Building C112
The Canada Out of Afghanistan Campaign and UVic's Students Against War are hosting outspoken Gulf War Objector and Courage to Resist organizer David Solnit. He will be speaking about his new book Army of None, a comprehensive guide to counter-recruitment outlining various methods ranging from lobbying to direct action. Come and hear from an experienced activist and learn more about how to participate in the ongoing counter-recruitment campaigns.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

Invasive Plants of Southern Vancouver Island

7pm.
UVic, MacLaurin Bldg, Rm D-116
The Native Plant Study Group presents:
Wendy Tyrell will discuss identification and strategies to address the alarming increase of non-native and invasive species appearing in the coastal region. Non member drop-in fee: $2.
Info: 595-5820, www.npsg.ca

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